

QUARTERLY REPORT

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CIVIL SOCIETY INITIATIVES TO PROMOTE THE RULE OF LAW (CSI.ROL) IN SRI LANKA

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ACRONYMS

ABA American Bar Association
BASL Bar Association of Sri Lanka

CEDAW Convention on the Elimination of All Form of Discrimination Against Women

CLA Commonwealth Lawyers' Association
CLC Commonwealth Law Conference
CLE Continuing Legal Education
CLL Colombo Law Library

CLS Colombo Law Elotary
CLS Colombo Law Society

CSI.ROL Civil Society Initiatives to Promote the Rule of Law

CSO Civil Society Organization

CV Curriculum Vitae

CWD Center for Women in Development

DS Divisional Secretariat EU European Union

FJE Fund for Justice and Education

GBV Gender-Based Violence

ICT Information and Communications Technology

ILO International Labour Oganization

LAC Legal Aid Commission

LHRD Lawyers for Human Rights Development

MOJ Ministry of Justice

NGO Non-Governmental Organization

NIC National Identity Card
PSU Program Support Unit
RFA Request for Applications
ROLI Rule of Law Initiative
TOT Training of the Trainers
UoC University of Colombo

UN United Nations

UNDP United Nations Development Programme

USAID United States Agency for International Development

VAW Violence Against Women WHC Wholistic Health Center

WIN Women in Need

PROGRAM BACKGROUND

In September of 2013, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) awarded the Civil Society Initiatives to Promote the Rule of Law (CSI.ROL) contract to Millennium DPI Partners. Millennium DPI Partners is a woman-owned small business that implements rule of law reforms in developing countries. Millennium DPI's approach is to deliver rapid, effective, and innovative assistance to enable host country governments, civil society leaders, and communities to develop sustainable solutions that improve the delivery, availability, and quality of justice.

CSI.ROL is a three-year program being implemented from October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2016.

The CSI.ROL program focuses on supporting targeted civil society organizations (CSOs) to promote the rule of law in Sri Lanka. Through the Bar Association of Sri Lanka (BASL), the Legal Aid Commission (LAC), educational and research institutions, and CSOs, the program is working to build capacity among these counterparts to:

- Engage in evidence-based advocacy for comprehensive legal reforms
- Enhance legal education and training for lawyers, judges, and non-judicial officers
- Improve access to legal services for marginalized and vulnerable populations.

In the first year, CSI.ROL focused on building the BASL's and LAC's human and institutional capacity through development of program support units and training of BASL members and LAC legal officers. In Year 2, building upon this foundation, CSI.ROL is focusing on:

- Developing and implementing a Strategic Plan for the BASL aimed at improving services to BASL members
- Developing the BASL's capacity to provide training for lawyers and other justice sector actors on topics that respond to the needs of its membership
- Developing a sustainable business platform from which the BASL may raise funds
- Developing the BASL's ability to produce quantifiable, statistics-based reports about the operation of the legal system to improve the delivery of justice and inform the reform process
- Increasing the capacity of the LAC to design and implement legal awareness and outreach projects and raise funds for these projects
- Improving the knowledge and skills of LAC legal officers in ensure high quality legal services
- Supporting the expansion of legal assistance programs throughout Sri Lanka by providing support to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and CSOs that provide legal counseling and representation and conduct public outreach, as well as providing technical assistance and support for legal training and development of program management skills.

COMPONENT I. BUILDING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF BASL

Component 1 aims to increase the ability of the BASL to perform a full array of functions essential for providing services to its membership and for influencing the development of a more effective justice system. CSI.ROL interventions under this component will increase the BASL's capacity to promote reforms and enhance its versatility to respond to the breadth of challenges confronting the profession and the legal system as a whole. A sister relationship between the BASL and the American Bar Association (ABA) is the primary vehicle for building this capacity.

I. RELATIONSHIP WITH AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION (ABA) AND PROFESSIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

A. The ABA and the BASL Establish Relationship and Develop Strategic Plan

As part of building this relationship, the ABA and the BASL embarked on a strategic planning process. The end result, the Strategic Plan and the accompanying Implementation Action Plan, will guide the activities between the BASL and the ABA over the life of this project and set out a plan for the BASL for the next five years.

From January 21–25, ABA Strategic Planning Specialist Babara Opotowsky, together with ABA ROLI Asia Director Jennifer Rasmussen and ABA ROLI Senior Program officer Sehar Raziuddin, conducted strategic planning sessions with the BASL. Throughout the week, the ABA team conducted individual meetings with senior BASL leaders, including then-President Upul Jayasuriya, the incoming President Geoffrey Alagaratnam, the Deputy President, Secretary, members of the Junior Bar, the Junior Bar Representative to the Executive Committee, and heads of BASL committees. On January 24, the ABA team met with the BASL Executive Committee in plenary session to discuss critical topics that arose during individual meetings. Sixteen members of the Executive Committee attended, including 10 Colombo-based senior BASL leaders and 6 Zonal Vice Presidents. Nayomi Wickramarathne, BASL Program Committee Program Manager, and Sandamal Rajapakse, convener of the ICT Committee, also attended.

During the are:

- 1. Advocacy on Critical Rule of Law Issues (including access to justice)
- 2. Support for Outstation Bars (including better infrastructure and timely access to information) strategic planning session, the BASL leadership identified the six areas of greatest need and prioritized them. In order of importance, the six priority areas identified
- 3. Financial Stability and Sustainability of the Bar
- 4. Enhance the Profession (specifically increase support for the Junior Bar, continuing legal education [CLE], diversity within the profession, and ethics)
- 5. Consolidating Management Structure and Enhancing the BASL IT Support
- 6. Expansion of the Legal Profession (to meet demand for professional legal services).

Based on these planning session discussions, the ABA drafted a Strategic Plan in concert with Mr. Jayasuriya and Mr. Alagaratnam. The Draft Strategic Plan (Attachment A) covers the topics

enumerated above and provides suggested next steps. BASL President Upul Jayasuriya and Geoffrey Alagaratnam approved the Draft Strategic Plan and presented it to the BASL Executive Committee on April 4, where it was approved in principal. The ABA and the BASL will now move forward with drafting the Implementation Action Plan.

B. Professional Exchange and Study Tour Programs

The strategic planning sessions immediately preceded the ABA/BASL Exchange Tour, which took place February 3–13. The study tour schedule was adjusted in order to provide strong continuity between the Strategic Plan and study tour meetings and activities. The study tour schedule is included as Attachment B. The 11 BASL study tour members were selected by BASL President Upul Jayasuriya based on criteria provided by CSI.ROL, including their roles within the organization and their ability to share and build upon the lessons learned during the study tour. Biographical information of the participants is provided as Attachment C.

The first segment of the study tour took place in Houston, Texas, where the ABA hosted the BASL delegation at the ABA Midyear Meeting. ABA Rule of Law Initiative (ROLI) program staff arranged meetings with external speakers and ABA leaders and provided study tour participants with opportunities that would help enhance the delegation's understanding of four of the priority areas raised in the Strategic Plan: CLE, ethics, research, and advocacy. The study tour aimed to provide the delegation with concrete examples of how the ABA helps enrich the legal profession in the United States, promote the rule of law, and foster professional responsibility. Among the many meetings attended in Houston, the following are some meetings that the delegates noted as highlights.

- Michele Mayes, Chair of the Standing Commission on Women, provided more insight into how the Commission supports women in the legal profession. She also detailed the Commission's Grit Project and directed the delegation to Grit videos which were shown in Washington, DC. Study tour participants have since noted that they would like to create videos for the BASL and are collaborating with BASL members to capture relevant issues in a similar fashion.
- Several members of the delegation had the opportunity to visit the Harris County District Courts, observe a witness at a murder trial, and speak with the Honourable Judge Marc Carter about the US trial process.
- Jackie Casey, Director of the ABA Fund for Justice and Education (FJE), discussed the challenges and strategies that the ABA faces in raising funds for critical bar programs. Ms. Casey provided background on the five main areas of concentration for FJE-funded programs: (1) Access to Justice; (2) Children and Family Rights; (3) Public Education; (4) Professionalism and the Legal Profession; and (5) International Justice. She also described how the ABA implements programming in these critical areas.
- Participants met with Kay Sims, Executive Director of the Houston Bar Association, to discuss the role that the state bar association plays in supporting lawyers, promoting a pro bono culture, and advocating for access to justice in Houston.

A ceremonial signing reception of the ABA and BASL Friendship Agreement was held on the morning of February 7, 2015, during the ABA Midyear Meeting. ABA President William C. Hubbard and Head of BASL Delegation Anura Meddegoda signed the agreement for their

respective associations after delivering remarks on the new partnership. ABA Immediate Past-President James Silkenat, President-Elect Paulette Brown, and Chair of the ABA ROLI Board and former ABA President Stephen N. Zack also attended the reception, along with a number of ABA Midyear Meeting guests.

The second half of the study tour took place in Washington, DC, where the BASL delegates met with the ABA Washington, DC leadership. Meetings held in Washington included the following:

- Monika Metha, Staff Attorney for the Center for Human Rights, discussed the Center's work in addressing critical human rights issues and developing policy, projects, and educational initiatives to advance human rights both nationally and internationally.
- Senior Legislative Counsel Kristi Gaines and Director Tom Susman of the Government Affairs Office detailed the role of the ABA in advocating for critical legal issues in the United States.
- Jack Rives, Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer of the ABA, spoke to the delegation about ABAction!, the ABA's plan to increase membership and non-dues revenue. He also spoke about his leadership role in the organization.
- Several delegates met with members of the DC Bar, who elaborated on the role of the DC Bar in promoting access to justice and supporting the legal profession in Washington. They additionally discussed initiatives to promote pro bono services in the local legal community, and how legal ethics are promoted.
- Associate Section Director Caroline Walters of the Individual Rights and Responsibilities section spoke about how her group provides leadership within the ABA and the legal profession in protecting and advancing human rights, civil liberties, and social justice.
- Bob Horowitz, Director of the ABA's International Legal Technical Assistance Division and Professional Services Division for DC, and Holly Cook, Director of the ABA's DC Operations, reiterated the role of ABAction! and the ABA's role in promoting justice and the legal profession in the United States.
- Theresa Melton, Director of Communications at the ABA, explained how her division handles all external communications of the ABA.
- Elizabeth Yang, Deputy Director of Public Services, detailed how her division provides staff with support and expertise for attorney-directed programs and activities that lend focus, voice, and visibility to the ABA's public service role.
- Eric Angel of Legal Aid DC spoke about the role of Legal Aid in meeting the civil legal needs of Washington residents and shared information about how Legal Aid DC supports efforts with a salaried staff and pro bono volunteers.

ABA ROLI pro bono bar expert Barbara Opotowsky joined the delegation for both the Houston and Washington legs of the study tour to facilitate meetings, share her experience with the New York City Bar Association, and extract useful information that could be applied to the Sri Lankan example. Ms. Opotowsky also participated in periodic morning debriefing sessions with the delegation, which provided an opportunity for the delegation members to share information about the sessions they attended. Ms. Rasmussen and Ms. Raziuddin accompanied

the BASL delegation on behalf of the ABA ROLI. On behalf of Millennium DPI, Program Manager Lynn Sferrazza accompanied the delegation in Houston, Texas, and Ms. Natalija Stamenkovic accompanied the delegation in Washington, DC. Deputy Program Manager Nadee Gunarathne accompanied the delegation throughout the duration of the study tour.

Prior to departure on January 26, the ABA and the CSI.ROL team hosted a pre-departure briefing for the delegation at the CSI.ROL office where ABA provided background information on the ABA Midyear Meeting in Houston, individuals with whom the delegation would meet, and what to expect during the study tour. Program Manager Lynn Sferrazza, who joined this meeting by Skype (as she did not hold a valid visa at the time), emphasized the duties attached to being a member of the delegation, the restrictions attached to J1 visas, and the obligation to complete a trip report upon returning to Sri Lanka.

2. RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATIONS

Last quarter, Millennium DPI supported the BASL to become a member of the Commonwealth Lawyers' Association (CLA). The CLA is a pan-Commonwealth organization that seeks to uphold the rule of law in the Commonwealth by encouraging the exchange of ideas between legal professionals, academics, and students through projects and by driving improvements in legal education. The CLA holds a number of events throughout the year and has a biennial conference, the Commonwealth Law Conference (CLC), which regularly attracts over 1,000 delegates including many eminent legal professionals. Members receive discounted rates to CLA events.

Millennium DPI is supporting a delegation from the BASL to attend the 19th CLC in Glasgow on April 12–16, 2015. The tentative agenda for this conference is highly relevant to issues that will be addressed by the BASL in the coming year, with four parallel streams on the subjects of: 1) Constitutionalism, Human Rights, and Rule of Law; 2) the Legal and Judicial Profession; 3) Contemporary Legal Topics; and 4) Corporate and Commercial Law.

Representatives from bar associations from many of the 53 Commonwealth countries attend this conference, and it will be a valuable opportunity for the BASL delegation to connect with colleagues and leaders from other Commonwealth bar associations. In addition, Mr. Upul Jayasuriya will be awarded the Rule of Law Award at this conference, which is a unique opportunity to showcase the work of the BASL.

CSI.ROL will support attendance at the conference for Mr. Jayasuriya and the newly elected BASL President Geoffrey Alagaratnam, as well as four other members of the BASL leadership. In February, CSI.ROL provided criteria to the BASL for delegate selection stating that all proposed delegates should be currently active within the BASL, be committed to remaining active in BASL for at least the next two years, and show a demonstrated interest in the topics of the conference. CSI.ROL also requested that 50% of the proposed delegates be women, 50% Junior Bar members, and that preference be given to those who have not had a chance to attend an international conference. The BASL provided a list of seven potential delegates. The CSI.ROL team interviewed the seven candidates in early March and chose the four best-qualified candidates to attend the conference. The four delegates selected in addition to Mr. Jayasuriya and Mr. Alagaratnam are: Nuwan Bopage, Co-Convenor of the Junior Bar National Law Conference; Buwaneka Basnayake, Co-Convenor of the Junior Bar National Law Conference; Nalani

Manatunga, President, Galle Law Association; and Peshala Attygalle, Chair of the Junior Bar National Law Conference

3. Development of the BASL's Financial Sustainability

The BASL Program Committee (whose salaries are supported by CSI.ROL) has undertaken several initiatives this quarter to begin to raise revenue to promote a financially sustainable BASL. The main activities in this direction are events — including the development of a for-fee Certificate Course on ICT Law and repeating the popular Forensics in Criminal Law course developed last quarter — BASL directory fees, and rental fees from the BASL large and mini auditoriums recently renovated with CSI.ROL funds. These efforts are in the nascent stages; however, to date the Program Committee has raised 594,500 rupees net, with the prospect of raising much more in the future.

On March 14, the BASL Program Committee, together with the BASL Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Committee, launched a certificate course on ICT law, which will take place on consecutive Saturdays over the course of eight weeks. The primary instructor for this course is Mr. Sunil Abeyratne, a law professor and author of a law textbook on Sri Lankan ICT law. Mr Jayantha Fernando, Mr. Prathiba Mahanama, and Mr. Chatura Galehena also are providing instruction during the eight-week course. This course has proven to be highly popular, with 82 lawyers enrolled in the first Colombo-based course. The course was entirely funded by participant fees with no donor funding, and will net the BASL 350,000 rupees. Due to popular demand, the BASL will conduct a second eight-week ICT certificate course in Colombo beginning May 7. To date, 50 participants have enrolled in the second session, and this second session currently is expected to net 250,000 rupees. The BASL will also host the ICT certificate course in Kandy beginning in the second week of June. The same resource people as those in Colombo will provide instruction for the Kandy course.

In May, the BASL Program Committee will conduct the Use of Forensics in Criminal Law course, which was developed last year with CSI.ROL funds, in the newly renovated BASL main auditorium. Approximately 200 people are expected to attend. The exact date and fee have yet to be set by the BASL leadership. However, this course will be entirely funded by fees, with no donor funding. The BASL Program Committee has engaged the same training team as last year, lead by Professor Ravindra Fernando.

In addition, the BASL Program Committee has also raised 125,000 rupees from advertisements in the BASL directory, 31,500 rupees in rental fees from the newly renovated mini-auditorium, and 67,500 rupees in rental fees from the newly renovated large auditorium.

The BASL Program Committee has also launched a monthly series of talks entitled Siyapathvila. Conducted in the BASL main auditorium, this monthly gathering is aimed at law students and young lawyers. With young lawyer participation in the BASL declining over the last decade, the talks are meant to engage young lawyers with the BASL so that they may become active members in the future. The topics of these talks are not necessarily law-related; for example the first Siyapathvila talk, entitled "Life Beyond Law," focused on the outside interests of senior bar leaders, such as community theater and art. Admission fees for Siyapathvil are low, with the intent of breaking even. However, the events have raised 20,500 rupees to date.

COMPONENT 2. IMPROVE THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF SRI LANKA'S CAPACITY TO PROMOTE AND ADVOCATE FOR MORE TRANSPARENT AND HIGHER QUALITY JUSTICE

Component 2 focuses on enabling Sri Lankan justice sector actors to collect and use performance data to improve legal system operations and efficacy. The compilation, analysis, and publicizing of justice sector research and statistics will allow stakeholders to identify the barriers and bottlenecks hindering the efficient functioning of the courts and legal system. This information should also provide an impetus for stakeholders to coalesce around needed reforms. Assisting the BASL to develop and sustain the capacity to gather and analyze research and statistical data will allow justice sector actors to determine whether changes to policies, training, or other inputs can positively impact the delivery of justice.

I. GATHER JUSTICE SECTOR DATA TO PROMOTE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE LEGAL SYSTEM

The CSI.ROL SOW calls for CSI.ROL to support the BASL Research Unit in collecting data on court case loads, case processing times and systems, and causes for delay in the courts. The BASL had initially intended to gather this data through the court registrars. However, given the relationship between the BASL and the previous government, access to the court registrars was not permitted. Therefore, the BASL Research Manager, Ms. Umisheka Dalpatadu, and the CSI.ROL team developed an alternative research plan that can be conducted without the assistance of the courts.

Over the last two quarters, the BASL Research Manager Ms. Umeshika Dalpatadu, together with CSI.ROL court management consultant Richard Callanan, drafted a survey instrument to gather data from practicing lawyers on their experiences working within the court system. This survey instrument aims to gather data similar to that which would have been gathered from court registrars, but from practicing lawyers. The survey queries lawyers on operational aspects of the courts (scheduling and processing times), systematic aspects (practices and procedures), and legal cultural aspects including judicial and bar culture. This data will then be analyzed by the BASL and used to craft a policy position paper on recommended court administration reform, which will be rolled out in at a national conference on court administration (see below). This draft survey instrument was approved with some suggested changes in December by the BASL Committee on Modern and Efficient Legal Practice, which is comprised of: Geoffrey Alagaratnam, BASL President; Prasanna Jayawardena, former Deputy President; and the 16 Zonal Vice Presidents.

In January, Mr. Callanan trained Ms. Dalpatadu on how to set up the survey questions and input results into the survey software, Minitab. Mr. Callanan also trained Ms. Dalpatadu and CSI.ROL staff members Mr. Vasana Wickremasena and Ms. Mahbooba Rifaideen on how to conduct the implementation of the survey, including data verification and quality control methods. Mr. Callanan conducted the training remotely via GoToMeeting due to inability to obtain a visa during his window of availability. Ms. Dalpatadu in turn trained a team of six volunteer law students who work with the Research Unit on survey implementation.

The survey questionnaire was translated into Tamil and Sinhala and pre-tested on three focus groups, two in Colombo and one in Embiliptiya, during March. The full team of nine researchers (Ms. Dalpatdu, Mr. Wickremasena, Ms. Rifaideen, and the six volunteers) began field survey

work on March 31 in Colombo and the Northern Province. The team will split into three teams of three people each to conduct the survey in the nine provinces in April and early May and will gather a total of 370 survey interviews. The target date for completion of fieldwork is May 8. The Research Unit will draft the final report with results of the survey in June and present the results at a national conference on court management in early July.

2. BUILD SUPPORT WITHIN THE BASL FOR DELAY REDUCTION EFFORTS IN CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES

As noted during in-depth interviews of justice sector actors in the National Survey on Perceptions of the Justice System, one of the main causes of delay in court processes is the practice of lawyers seeking and obtaining continuances on regular basis. To educate lawyers about best practices in court procedure and court management, the Research Unit will host a conference for justice sector stakeholders on court administration reform in July. The results of the survey described above will be rolled out at this conference and followed by provincial bar workshops where best practices in court management will be discussed. At the end of Year 2, the BASL will develop a policy position paper based on survey results and stakeholder feedback received at the national conference and provincial workshops. This policy paper will then be launched at a national conference.

3. Position Papers on Legal and Procedural Reforms Are Developed

With the recent change in government in Sri Lanka, the BASL has made it a priority to advocate for and inform lawyers, civil society, and the public about reforms in the justice sector that are part of President Sirisena's 100-days Program. A high priority for the BASL in this arena is the adoption of the Right to Information law, which President Sirisena promised to introduce in Parliament within the 100 days. In late February, the Ministry of Mass Media and Information released a draft bill on Right to Information and invited public comment. The BASL immediately responded.

With support from CSI.ROL, the BASL drafted a policy paper commenting on the draft law, comparing it with the World Bank Model Law on Freedom of Information and the Indian Right to Information Act of 2005. This policy paper was drafted by BASL Research Manager Umeshika Dalpatadu and reviewed by Professor Camena Gunaratne, Dean and Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Department of Legal Studies at the Open University; Dr. Paikiasothy Saravanamuttu, Founder of the Centre for Policy Alternatives; and Dr. Mario Gomez, Executive Director of International Centre for Ethnic Studies (ICES).

On March 16, the Research Unit hosted its first public forum, at which its policy paper was distributed. The distinguished panel of speakers consisted of those who had reviewed the policy paper — Professor Camena Gunaratne, Dr. Paikiasothy Saravanamuttu, and Dr. Mario Gomez — who discussed the law and necessary clarifications and amendments. The panel discussion was moderated by Dr. Sunil Coorey, Attorney at Law and member of the Executive Committee of the BASL, and was followed by a lively and informed question and answer session. Prior to the forum, the BASL was able to obtain the latest version of the draft law, dated March 13, which had been amended in the weeks since the Ministry's February announcement, and it was this version that was distributed and discussed at the forum.

One hundred eighteen (118) people attended the forum, including 35 legal practitioners, 55 law students, 19 representatives from CSOs, and 9 members of the press. The forum was covered by five TV stations, three radio stations, and three print media outlets. Media outlets in attendance included: Derana TV/Radio, Sirasa TV/Radio, ITN TV, Rupavahini TV, LBO TV, Nethra Radio, Mawbima (print), DO (print), and Ceylon Today (print).

The BASL considered and accepted many of the comments received at the forum and incorporated them into its own comments. On March 24, the BASL delivered a letter to the Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Mass Media and Information supporting the passage of the law and providing comments on specific provisions and language in the draft law that should be revised to strengthen and clarify the law.

COMPONENT 3. STRENGTHENING THE TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE OF JUDGES, LAWYERS, AND NON-JUDICIAL OFFICERS

The objective of Component 3 is to expand the delivery of technical, management, and administrative training to lawyers, judges, and other court personnel such as court stenographers. Under this component, the BASL — in collaboration with NGOs, universities, and/or training institutes — will conduct legal education programs to bolster the knowledge and skills of justice sector actors and improve their responsiveness to court users.

In this quarter, with the support of CSI.ROL, the BASL Program Committee has been preparing for upcoming trainings, including a National Conference on Migration and Trafficking, provincial level trainings on ethics, a national conference on the UN Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), and a negotiation skills training.

In addition, the CSI.ROL team has been actively working with the Open University to develop a court stenographer training program on Legal English, which will commence in late April or early May. Plans to award scholarships to the University of Colombo (UoC) LLM program remain on hold while the UoC revises the LLM curriculum and determines when it will open the program to the next class.

I. LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR JUDGES AND LAWYERS

Due to the BASL leadership's engagement in legal activity around the January Presidential elections, the leadership's participation in the ABA/BASL Exchange Tour in February, and the change in BASL leadership in March, legal education programs were not conducted this quarter. However, the BASL Program Committee was actively engaged in preparing programs for next quarter as detailed below.

PREPARATIONS FOR NEXT QUARTER PROGRAMS

A. National Workshop on Labor Migration and Trafficking

With support from CSI.ROL, the BASL and the Solidarity Center will host a national-level conference on labor migration and trafficking in Colombo on April 25 at the BASL auditorium. The 60 participants have been selected from among the lawyers who attended the provincial-

level workshops who expressed the greatest interest in the topic of migration and trafficking. The goal of the workshop is to engage qualified legal practitioners in order to create a network of Sri Lankan legal practitioners that can provide services to Sri Lankans at home and abroad who have migrated, are thinking of migrating, or are victims of trafficking.

Building on the theoretical knowledge gained at the provincial workshops, this national-level workshop will focus on complaint and assistance mechanisms, such as services given during the pre-departure stage, consular services provided in the countries of destination, and complaint handling mechanisms for the migrant workers. The workshop also will address the new International Labour Organization (ILO) protocol on forced labor and other international conventions, existing national legislation, and gaps in national legislation that must be addressed to meet international obligations.

The national workshop will be conducted in four panel sessions. Panelists will include two international experts — Mr. Daniel Lo, a Malaysian human rights attorney who specializes in migration and trafficking, and Mr. Joseph Aoun, an attorney with Caritas Lebanon Migrant Center — and five local experts — Mr. L. K Ruhunage, Dr. Ramani Jayasundara, Dr. Sepali Kotegoda, Mr. S.H.A. Mohamed, and Ms. Chandrika Karunaratne.

B. Promotion of Ethics and Ethics Provincial-Level Training

A focus of the BASL in the upcoming years, as reflected in the Draft Strategic Plan, is to enhance the professionalism of lawyers and promote ethics in the legal profession. Many in the legal profession have expressed concern at the rising level of unethical practices, such as touting, falsification of documentation, and bribery. To address these issues, the BASL has developed a half-day training module on ethics that will be conducted in Colombo and the provinces. In order to create a training course that can be replicated by local bar associations, the BASL is developing a training video to be used in the ethics program, in addition to traditional materials and teaching methods.

The video will feature three (3) eight-to-ten-minute vignettes depicting common situations involving ethical issues. The video will be used to spur debate and dialogue. The participants will view the vignettes, critique the situation, discuss the ethical issues, and propose proper outcomes. The script, which was drafted by professional scriptwriters in consultation with the BASL Ethics Committee, was submitted for USAID approval on March 13. The video production team will produce a rough cut of the video by early May (which will also be submitted for USAID approval). The final video will be produced in June, and trainings will take place during July–September in the nine provinces. Trainings are tentatively scheduled for Kandy, Jaffna, Matara, Baticoloa, Colombo, Marawila, Bandarawela, Anuradhapura, and Ratnapura.

The team of trainers who will conduct the provincial trainings includes: Mr. Geoffrey Alagaratnam (BASL President and former Chair of the Ethics Committee), Jaliya Bodinagoda, Mohamed Adamaly, Shanaka Amarasinghe, and Viran Corea.

C. Conference on Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women

While some progress has been made on gender equality, discrimination against women remains a large problem in Sri Lanka, and in recent years there has been significant backsliding. The 2013 Global Gender Gap Report presented by the World Economic Forum ranked Sri Lanka 55th out of 136 countries with a score of 0.7019 (0.00 = extreme inequality, 1.0 = extreme equality). In 2012 it was ranked at 39th and in 2006 at 13th. In 2013 Sri Lanka demonstrated the third largest negative change in overall ranking of the 136 countries with a rating of -2.5 percent. Political empowerment was ranked at 30th following a steady decrease over the period of 2006 to 2013. Economic participation and earned income accounted for much of the overall decrease in the national rating with an abrupt descent to a rating of 109th despite significant growth in the national economy.

Sri Lanka ratified CEDAW in 1981, which requires equality before the law for both men and women. In practical terms, however, the laws needed to ensure gender equality and freedom from discrimination have not materialized since this international convention was signed.

In order to address these issues, Sri Lanka requires a legislative framework that supports and promotes equality of women. To this end, the BASL will conduct a conference on CEDAW. The conference will focus on international obligations, gaps in national legislation, and recommendations to meet international obligations.

The BASL Program Committee is currently designing the conference agenda and confirming the participation of resource people. The conference is tentatively scheduled for June 13–14.

Training on Negotiation Skills

The law curriculum at Sri Lankan universities provides a theoretical background in substantive Sri Lankan law but does not provide much in the way of legal skills training, such as client interviewing skills, negotiation, oral advocacy skills, and legal research and writing. The BASL has begun to make this type of skills training a priority. The BASL is planning to conduct its first skills training, tentatively scheduled for June, on negotiation skills. The CSI.ROL team and BASL Program Committee are currently selecting resource people and developing a course curriculum.

2. SCHOLARSHIPS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO'S MASTERS OF LAW PROGRAM

The BASL, through CSI.ROL, intends to support up to 20 scholarships to the University of Colombo LLM program in 2015. This activity was originally planned for Year 1 of the CSI.ROL program; however, the University of Colombo suspended their LLM program in 2014 while they revised the curriculum. To date, the University of Colombo has not officially stated when the program will be reopened.

However, the BASL is prepared for when the University of Colombo reopens the admission process. The BASL Program Committee has drafted the relevant scholarship documents, including the Scholarship Application and Guidelines, a one-page Scholarship Brochure, a three-

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¹ World Economic Forum, Gender Gap Report for 2013 - Full report can be found at http://www.wereforum.org/reports/global-gender-gap-2013.

page Scholarship Process Information Sheet (which will be provided with the application), and a Scholarship Committee Manual. These scholarship documents were forwarded to USAID for review on December 10, 2014.

After the University of Colombo announces the opening of admissions, the BASL will announce the availability of the LLM scholarship program. The BASL will make an announcement at two consecutive Bar Council meetings, post the scholarship opportunity on the BASL website, and publicize it in the BASL newsletter and in three major newspapers. All publicity concerning the scholarship program will contain, at a minimum, the following information: a brief description of the scholarship opportunity and eligibility requirements, information on where to obtain the Scholarship Brochure, the Scholarship Application and Guidelines, and the Scholarship Process Information Sheet. The brochure, application, and process information sheet will be available on the BASL website and at the BASL reception desk. In addition, there will be a statement on the website that the BASL Program Committee will provide the application documents via email to anyone who contacts the Program Committee.

CSI.ROL staff understand that the University of Colombo LLM program has a relatively high dropout rate, possibly due to the fact that it is a weekend program and many LLM candidates work full-time during their studies. CSI.ROL and the BASL have been unable to collect data from the University of Colombo on dropout rates, and it is unclear whether this is due to an unwillingness to release the data or a lack of data collection by the University. To help minimize the risk of losing funds due to drop outs, the BASL will request that all scholarship recipients post a bond for the full amount of the scholarship, which will be collected should the scholarship recipient fail to complete the program. In addition, as part of the application, applicants must submit a statement from the applicant's employer (if employed full-time) that the employer will release the applicant for lectures that occur during work hours, as LLM courses usually take place on Friday afternoons and weekends.

3. TRAINING FOR COURT STENOGRAPHERS

CSI.ROL has entered into an agreement with the Open University, which will create a Legal English course specifically for stenographers. This course will be modified from the curriculum of their certificate course in English for Legal Professionals, with an emphasis on aural comprehension.

Last quarter, the Open University interviewed eight court stenographers and discussed the areas that the stenographers find most challenging in order to gauge the English ability of stenographers. The stenographers were also given a test in which a portion of a judgment was dictated. The stenographers were required to record the judgment in short hand and then to write it in long form. This quarter, using the results of this testing information, the Open University has been developing course content and learning objectives.

The Open University is designing a 12-week course that will meet for two hours twice per week (four hours per week) for a total of 24 lectures and 48 teaching hours. The first training of 25 stenographers will commence in early May.

COMPONENT 4. ESTABLISHING PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF SRI LANKA TO INCREASE THE EFFICACY OF THE LEGAL SYSTEM

Component 4 focuses on strengthening the BASL's leadership in promoting evidence-based legal and policy reform, particularly with regard to improving case management, revising legislation to meeting international obligations and standards, and the protection of human rights. In collaboration with universities, CSOs, or other private institutions, CSI.ROL and the BASL will initiate research that will reveal how effectively (or ineffectively) the justice system is working. It is hoped that the reports and information that emerge from this collaborative process will broadly engage policy-makers and end-users to advocate for change.

I. IMPROVE THE RESEARCH CAPACITY OF THE BASL

The Research Unit issued its first policy paper this quarter, commenting on the draft Right to Information Bill. This policy paper was drafted in partnership with Professor Camena Gunaratne, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Department of Legal Studies at the Open University of Sri Lanka. See Component 2 above for more information on this policy paper.

In addition, the BASL Research Unit is conducting a desk review on court reform processes in other common law countries. The result will be a companion research paper to the BASL membership survey on court administration (see Component 2) to help put the issues and potential solutions in context. CSI.ROL's court administration consultant Richard Callanan is providing technical assistance to guide the Research Unit in its endeavor.

2. ENHANCED ACCESS TO LEGAL RESOURCES — THE COLOMBO LAW LIBRARY (CLL)

Renovation of the Colombo Law Library (CLL) was completed in December 2014. Renovation and upgrading of the library included: the purchase of five new computers; bar coding of books and installation of a scanning system; CCTV cameras; four book cupboards; a photocopier; air-conditioning and fans; and electrical re-wiring.

CSI.ROL is supporting the CLL to purchase 600 new books. Procurement has been delayed as the BASL Program Committee was working with publishing houses to determine the country of import for each of the titles. The BASL has now obtained quotes for the books and has placed an order for delivery. The books should arrive by late May. CSI.ROL will also support subscriptions to law journals after the CLL Committee provides a list of journals they would like to have available.

COMPONENT 5. IMPROVING ACCESS TO LEGAL SERVICES FOR MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES

The objective of Component 5 is to improve access to legal services for marginalized communities and populations, build the capacity of the LAC and other legal aid service providers, and promote public awareness of basic rights and the availability of free legal services. The primary vehicle for this component is sub-awards to the LAC and selected NGOs to support legal aid services and to implement public awareness campaigns.

I. SUB-AWARDS TO THE LAC TO SUPPORT LEGAL AID SERVICES AND PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

A. Activities of LAC Program Support Unit South/West

The LAC has a Program Support Unit (PSU) funded by the European Union (EU) that raises program funds and oversees programs conducted by the 10 LAC offices in the Northern and Eastern provinces. To ensure that the other 66 LAC offices have funds to conduct program work, CSI.ROL supported the creation of the PSU South/West last quarter. The PSU S/W oversees CSI.ROL programming for LAC projects (much like the BASL Program Committee) and also fundraises from outside sources for the 66 LAC offices in the south and west, to ensure the long-term sustainability of LAC program work. The PSU S/W works in close coordination with the PSU N/E.

This quarter, CSI.ROL consultant Isaac Robinson mentored the PSU staff on project cycle management and proposal writing. With the assistance of Mr. Robinson, the PSU S/W and N/E staff submitted two joint proposal concepts to the EU and one full proposal to United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The PSU should be informed of decisions on these proposals and concept notes within the next quarter.

The PSU S/W is overseeing the LAC and CSI.ROL projects described below.

B. Awareness Raising for the Visually Impaired

On March 21, the LAC conducted an awareness-raising program for 220 visually impaired persons, including 100 men and 120 women. The program raised legal awareness among people living with visual disabilities on the rights of the disabled and general laws applicable to all citizens, such as family law, property law, banking, and finance. After the awareness-raising session, the LAC conducted a legal aid clinic to provide legal advice to individual participants. The LAC partnered with the Sri Lanka Federation of the Visually Handicapped, the Ceylon School for the Deaf and Blind, Rathmalana, and the Ministry of Social Services on this event.

C. Awareness Raising Through Street Dramas and Poster Campaign

In order to reach those with legal needs in the more remote parts of Sri Lanka, the LAC is organizing a series of street dramas and conducting a poster campaign in 10 rural townships across the country. In each selected township, LAC legal officers will organize an awareness walk and performance of three short street dramas designed to inform the community about their legal rights, the availability of legal aid, and how to apply for legal aid. The LAC has teamed up with professional stage and popular tele-drama actors to stage the street dramas. See Attachment E for bios of the street drama actors. After the performance and during the awareness walk, the actors distribute leaflets with information on legal aid, and LAC posters are posted in prominent places in government offices and public spaces.

The LAC staged a dress rehearsal of the three street dramas on March 12 at the Fort Railway station in Colombo. The subject matter of the dramas is maintenance, accidents, and domestic violence. The street dramas drew a large crowd, and after the end of the dramas many members of the audience asked questions about the availability of legal aid.

The street drama campaign was officially launched in Kandy and Nurawa Eliya on March 14 and 15 with the street drama performed in various locations throughout those cities. Approximately 100–120 people observed the dramas. Afterwards, numerous people sought legal advice and were referred to the nearby LAC office. Upcoming street dramas are planned for April 4, 5, and 6 in Ampara, Polannaruwa, and Anuradhapura, and May 2 and 3 in Tissamaharama and Matara. The street dramas will be performed through July.





Street Dramas In Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa

D. Provincial Training for Legal Officers on Trial Court Skills

LAC legal officers are often new law school graduates with little or no legal or courtroom experience. For those outside Colombo, there is not much opportunity for mentoring from senior

lawyers. To address this issue, CSI.ROL is supporting the development of a Civil Trial Court Skills Training program, to be conducted in each of the nine provinces. This two-day training will focus on the practical skills and substantive knowledge needed by legal officers in their everyday practice: civil procedure, issue framing, evidence, witness testimony, and court pleadings, as well as leading case law on family law and tort law.

The training manual for was finalized in January and translated into Tamil and Sinhala. The PSU and CSI.ROL team conducted a training of trainers (TOT) for the three training teams (one Tamil team and two Sinhala teams) on February 28. The trainers suggested improvements to the training manual and developed the methodology for the provincial-level trainings. Provincial trainings will launch on April 25–26 in Colombo and continue in the provinces through June 2015. Each provincial training will have 20–30 participants, including all LAC legal officers in the province and selected panel lawyers from the local bar association.

Based on feedback from the provincial trainings, the manual will be revised as needed in July. The final manual will then be distributed (in Tamil, Sinhala, and English, as appropriate) to all LAC legal officers and panel attorneys for use in their practice.

E. Legal English for LAC Lawyers

CSI.ROL is partnering with the LAC and the Open University to offer a Legal English course to all LAC lawyers. In December, the LAC lawyers were tested on English reading comprehension and writing so that they can be grouped into Beginner, Level 1, and Level 2 courses. The Open University will provide dedicated group classes to LAC lawyers through its campus in Colombo and its centers in Kandy, Matara, Jaffna, Anuradhapura, and Batticaloa. The course will be offered to all LAC lawyers that do not place out of Level 2 and will begin in late April.

F. Computer Training for LAC Lawyers

Many of the LAC legal officers lack basic computer skills. This presents a barrier to communication between LAC headquarters and the 76 branch offices, as legal officers and administrative assistants rarely correspond by email. The lack of computer skills and training also prevents legal officers from composing well written legal documents on a computer and producing budgets with Excel. In response, CSI.ROL is supporting basic and advanced computer training for those legal officers who may need such assistance. Thirty-nine (39) legal officers will commence computer training on May 9, including legal officers from Colombo (17), Chilaw (5), Anuradhapure (4), Kandy (2), Bandarawela (4), Nittambuwa/Kadawatha (3), Galle (2), and Jaffna (2).

G. Legal Aid Commission Annual Report

CSI.ROL will support the LAC to publish its Annual Report for 2014, as it did with the 2013 LAC Annual Report. It is important for the LAC to inform stakeholders, government entities, and other donors of its work. The 2014 Annual Report will contain information on, among other things, the number of cases filed, cases closed, cases pending, number of consultations, courts where cases are filed, the nature of the cases, number of staff by LAC location, and whether cases were handled by LAC legal officers or panel lawyers. The Annual Report will also contain information about special project and programs, including donor-supported projects. The LAC will provide copies of the report to government entities, NGOs, donors, and other stakeholders and will make the report available online.

2. Sub-Awards to NGOs to Support Legal Aid Services and Public Awareness Campaigns

CSI.ROL is currently supporting three NGOs that provide legal aid services and conduct public awareness campaigns: Women in Need (WIN), the Center for Women and Development (CWD), and Lawyers for Human Rights and Development (LHRD). This section summarizes NGO grantee activity for this quarter.

A. Women in Need

WIN's two-year program includes three main activities: 1) provide legal aid to women who are victims of gender-based violence (GBV) though staff attorneys stationed at eight WIN Crisis Centers; 2) conduct two sensitization programs (one per year) for State Administrative Officials who work closely with communities (Grama Niladharis, Samurdhi Officers, and Public Health Workers) on issues of GBV; and 3) conduct Training Programs for Mediators on GBV in Badulla, Puttalam, Anuradhapura, Kandy, Batticaloa, Colombo, Jaffna, Kurunegala, and Matara.

This quarter, WIN provided legal services to clients at their eight Crisis Centers in Colombo, Kandy, Matara, Jaffna, Puttalam, Kurunegala, Anuradhapura, and Badulla. Six of these eight centers have more than one lawyer; however CSI.ROL supports only one lawyer at each center. Other lawyers are funded through other sources. Below is a breakdown of the number of lawyers at each center.

Center Covered by the Project	Number of Lawyers in the Center	Number of Lawyers Supported by USAID
Anuradhapura	3	1
Badulla	1	1
Colombo	7	1
Kurunegala	1	1
Kandy	2	1
Matara	3	1
Jaffna	2	1
Puttlam	2	1

The information in the section below tracks only those legal services provided by lawyers supported by USAID funds.

In January, WIN's eight USAID-funded lawyers provided legal aid to 148 new clients. Twenty-six (26) of these cases were GBV cases. The chart below breaks down clients by center, case type, and demographic information. GBV cases are in bold.

	Number of New					Age group			
Location	Clients under USAID	Remarks	Ethnicity	Income Level	Gender	1-10 years	10-29 years	30+ years	
Anuradhapura	14	1 Rape 4 DV 2 Custody 1 Divorce 6 Maintenance	All Sinhalese	Low	All Female		3	11	
Badulla	15	2 Divorce 13 Maintenance	11 Sinhalese 4 Tamil	Low	All Female		1	14	
Colombo	11	3 DV 3 Divorce 5 Maintenance	8 Sinhalese 2 Muslim 1 Tamil	Low	All Female			11	
Kurunegala	50	1 Rape 1 Child Abuse 7 DV 21 Maintenance 20 Custody	43 Sinhalese 5 Muslim 2 Tamil	Low	All Female	1	3	46	
Kandy	16	3 DV 2 Divorce 11 Maintenance	All Sinhalese	Low	All Female			16	
Matara	23	3 DV 6 Divorce 14 Maintenance	All Sinhalese	Low	All Female		3	20	
Jaffna	10	2 DV 8 Maintenance	All Tamil	Low	All Female			10	
Puttlam	9	1 DV 3 Divorce 5 Maintenance	All Sinhalese	Low	All Female			9	

In February, WIN's eight USAID-funded lawyers provided legal aid to 124 new clients. Thirty-nine (39) of these cases were GBV cases. The chart below breaks down new clients by center, case type, and demographic information, with GBV cases in bold.

	Number of New					Age group			
Location	Clients under USAID	Remarks	Ethnicity	Income Level	Gender	1-10 years	10-29 years	30+ years	
Anuradhapura	10	4 DV 6 Maintenance	All Sinhalese	Low	All Female			10	
Badulla	15	4 DV 1 Sexual Assault 1 Rape 9 Maintenance	All Sinhalese	Low	All Female		1	14	
Colombo	12	2 DV 4 Divorce 6 Maintenance	9 Sinhalese 1 Muslim 2 Tamil	Low	All Female		4	8	
Kurunegala	43	1 Rape 2 Child Abuse 10 DV 25 Maintenance 5 Custody	40 Sinhalese 2 Tamil 1 Muslim	Low	All Female	2	11	30	
Kandy	12	2 DV 2 Divorce 8 Maintenance	All Sinhalese	Low	All Female		4	8	
Matara			18 Sinhalese 1 Muslim	Low	All Female	1	6	12	
Jaffna	6	1 DV 5 Maintenance	All Tamil	Low	All Female			6	
Puttlam	7 1 Rape 3 DV 1 Assault 2 Maintenance		All Sinhalese	Low	All Female		3	4	

In March, WIN's eight USAID-funded lawyers provided legal aid to 175 new clients. Thirty-one (31) of these cases were GBV cases. The chart below breaks down new clients by center, case type, and demographic information, with GBV cases in bold.

	Number of New			_		Age group			
Location	Clients under USAID	Remarks	Ethnicity	Income Level	Gender	1-10 years	10-29 years	30+ years	
Anuradhapura	17	4 DV 3 Divorce 10 Maintenance	All Sinhalese	Low	All Female		5	12	
Badulla	16	5 DV 3 Divorce 8 Maintenance	All Sinhalese	Low	All Female		3	13	
Colombo	31	3 DV 1 Rape 4 Divorce 6 Custody 17 Maintenance	22 Sinhalese 5 Tamil 4 Muslim	Low	All Female		7	24	
Kurunegala	50	8 DV 7 Divorce 11 Custody 24 Maintenance	42 Sinhalese 6 Tamil 2 Muslim	Low	All Female		12	38	
Kandy	14	1 DV 3 Divorce 10 Maintenance	All Sinhalese	Low	All Female		4	10	
Matara	17	4 DV 3 Divorce 1 Custody 9 Maintenance	All Sinhalese	Low	All Female		4	13	
Jaffna	10	1 DV 2 Custody 7 Maintenance	All Tamil	Low	All Female		3	7	
Puttlam	20	2 DV 2 Sexual Harassment 4 Divorce 4 Custody 8 Maintenance	All Sinhalese	Low	All Female		5	15	

In addition to providing legal services, WIN conducted training for mediators in Batticaloa on domestic violence issues. The training was held on February 12 with 38 mediators taking part, including 26 men and 12 women. The program was conducted in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice (MOJ). As with previous programs, the training aimed to create an open-minded and more gender-sensitive perspective among mediators who play an important role in settling family disputes, which often involve domestic violence against women and girls.

Mr. V. Savarinayagam, Mediator Trainer for the MOJ, served as a resource person for the program. The training was conducted in an interactive style. Participants were shown three short films dealing with the issue of domestic violence titled "DelovakaVaasaya," "Three Wheel Rekha," and "Padmini." After each film, a discussion was held reflecting on the issues commonly faced by women in Sri Lanka. The participants broke out into small groups for discussion on how the issues featured in the films should be dealt with. One member of each group was chosen to present the views of the group for general discussion.

In the next quarter, WIN is planning a sensitization workshop targeting 50 mid-level government officers in Colombo.

B. Lawyers for Human Rights and Development (LHRD)

LHRD's two-year program includes three main activities: 1) conduct 20 public awareness seminars (10 per year) in nine districts for vulnerable, marginalized, and plantation communities; 2) conduct eight legal aid clinics in eight prisons, providing consultations to 200–300 people and identifying 60–80 people for legal support; 3) provide legal representation to a minimum of 100 people through LHRD's lawyer network, at least 60 of whom will be detainees on remand (see item 2) and an additional 40 of whom will include women and children, victims of GBV, and plantation and migrant workers.

Prison Clinics: This quarter, LHRD conducted two prison legal aid clinics as part of their ongoing effort to conduct a total of eight clinics over the course of two years. Five lawyers (three from LHRD and two panel attorneys) conducted each of the prison clinics on January 24 and March 28. At each prison clinic, the lawyers interviewed the prisoners to determine, among other things, whether they were in prison on remand or conviction, the nature of the case, and the length of time in prison. Prison consultations are lengthy, and the sessions were carried out over the course of a full day by each of the five attorneys. The number of prisoners consulted at each of the prison legal aid clinic was as follows.

Date	Prison	Men	Women	Total
24 January 2015	Bogambara Prison, Dumbara	39	17	56
28 March 2015	Kuruwita Prison	61	6	67
Total		100	23	123

As with past prison clinics, after conducting consultations in the prisons, the lawyers visited the relevant magistrate courts to obtain certified copies of the court records, which are necessary to determine which cases are ripe for the provision of legal aid services. LHRD lawyers interviewed family members of the prisoners when possible to gather more information and determine whether anyone would be willing or able to post bail. After reviewing court files, interviewing families, and undertaking any other necessary fact-finding, LHRD will determine which cases to take forward for provision of legal aid services.

Cases Filed: In February, LHRD filed eight new fundamental rights cases in the Supreme Court (S. C. FR Application Nos. 34/15 - 41/15). LHRD filed these applications on behalf of eight convicted prisoners in Mahara Prison who have been compelled to serve illegal jail sentences

imposed by magistrate courts exceeding their jurisdiction. (Magistrates may only impose criminal sentences up to five years.) Among these prisoners are:

- One prisoner serving an illegal jail sentence of 72 years
- Two prisoners serving illegal jail sentences of 12 years
- One prisoner serving a jail sentence of 9 years 8 months for failure to pay maintenance to his wife
- One prisoner sentenced to 8 years, in lieu of suspended jail sentences.

In March, an attorney with the Attorney General's office objected to these cases stating that the magistrate courts orders are not subject to fundamental rights jurisdiction. LHRD countered that the magistrate courts' orders are illegal because they are beyond the magistrate courts' authority. A hearing on this issue is set for May 17.

Court Appearances: On January 13, LHRD lawyers made court appearances in five fundamental rights cases. In one case (S. C. (FR) No. 307/14), a suspect who had been held in custody for over five years without being charged, was released and the case against him in Mount Lavinia Magistrate Court dismissed. In the four other cases, four suspects who have been held in custody for four to eight years without being charged² were indicted in Colombo High Court. These cases will now proceed to trial.

On January 20, LHRD lawyers made court appearances in three fundamental rights cases. In one case (S. C. (FR) No. 336/14), a suspect who had been held in custody for five years and eight months without being charged was released and the case against him in Mount Lavinia Magistrate Court was dismissed. In the other two cases, the Attorney General was granted a continuance.

On January 23, LHRD lawyers made court appearances in two fundamental rights cases. The Attorney General was granted a continuance in both cases.

In March, LHRD lawyers made five court appearances in three previously filed fundamental rights cases. In all three cases, the prisoners who had been held in long term custody without being charged were indicted. These cases will now proceed to trial in Colombo and Kalutara High Courts.

Summary of Cases to Date: To date, LHRD has filed 18 fundamental rights cases before the Supreme Court. In two cases, the prisoner was discharged from prison and charges dismissed. In four cases, the prisoner was indicted and the case proceeded. Four cases are pending after a first hearing, and eight cases have been filed with written submissions in support of the case.

Community Awareness Seminars and Legal Clinics: LHRD held three Community Awareness Seminars and Legal Aid Clinics this quarter, providing information to community members on fundamental rights, property, and domestic violence, among other topics.

² S. C. (FR) 305/14 (4 ½ years); S. C. (FR) 306/14 (5 years 3 months); S. C. (FR) 308/14 (7 ½ years); S. C. (FR) 342/14 (8 ½ years)

On February 14, 120 community members took part in a program in Moneragala, including 18 men and 102 women. After the awareness-raising session, 18 people sought legal advice at the legal aid clinic on issues including: land, maintenance, financial transactions, and accidents.

On February 15, 133 community members took part in a program in Siyambalanduwa, including seven men and 126 women. After the awareness-raising session, 31 people sought legal advice at the legal aid clinic on issues including: land, maintenance, documentation (National Identity Cards [NICs] and birth certificates), financial transactions, family disputes, and children's issues.

On March 26, 134 community members took part in a program in Kahawatta, including 46 men and 88 women. After the awareness-raising session, 31 people sought legal advice at the legal aid clinic on issues including: land, maintenance, financial transactions, family disputes, documentation (NICs and birth certificates), and fundamental rights.

Other: LHRD forwarded a synopsis of a memorandum to the new Minister of Justice seeking an appointment with the Minister to discuss the problems faced by prisoners. LHRD has not received a response from the Minister.

LHRD made representations to the Attorney General and the Solicitor General about a female prisoner detained in Bogambara Prison for over six years on multiple counts while actions are pending against her. LHRD obtained a letter from the Solicitor General discharging one case in Panvila Magistrate Court. The Attorney General has promised to conclude all cases and/or charges against her before March 25.

C. Center for Women and Development

CWD's two-year program is conducted in the Northern and Eastern Provinces covering eight districts: Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, Vavuniya, and Mannar in the Northern Province and Trincomalee, Batticaloa, and Amparai in the Eastern Province. The program undertakes the following tasks: 1) conduct 10 legal awareness programs on legal issues such as land, documentation, and violence against women; 2) conduct a TOT for 100 selected women and youth (ages 25–30) who will be trained as paralegals to provide referral services (five programs for 20 persons each); 3) provide support to CWD lawyers in Jaffa, Vavuniya, and Batticaloa to strengthen and expand CWD's existing legal aid unit to provide legal aid services; 4) train officials working with Mediation Boards and women development officers at the Divisional Secretariat (DS) offices; and 5) conduct a print and electronic media campaign for disseminating legal information.

In the first two quarters of their grant (July–December, 2014), CWD conducted and completed the 10 legal awareness-raising programs. At each awareness-raising session, 10 community organization leaders were selected to take part in a TOT on how to provide legal aid referral services in their communities. One TOT was held last quarter. This quarter CWD conducted three TOT programs.

All TOT programs focused on land rights, women and children's rights, and how to report violence against women (VAW) cases. The trainers discussed CEDAW and UN Resolution 1325 and how those obligations apply in Sri Lanka. The groups were trained on existing legal and government resources so that they can properly refer community members to the appropriate services. On the second day of the trainings, the groups broke into small groups and discussed

three case studies dealing with GBV, family law and maintenance, and accidents. Below is a breakdown of training location, participant demographics and resource people.

	Date	Venue	# of Partici- pants	Men	Women	Participants' home town	Resource People
1	Jan 29-30	Jaffna	18	8	10	Nallur	 Mr. M. Remedias Atty Ms. D. Shiyani, Atty, Ms. J. Vansalin, Counseling Adviser with WHC (Wholistic Health Center)
2	Feb 19-20	Jaffna	20	9	11	Chavakachcheri	 Ms. D. Shiyani, Atty, Ms. J. Vansalin, Counseling Adviser with WHC (Wholistic Health Center)
3	March 8-9	Vavuniya	20	2	18	Vavuniya	 Ms Kalawathy, Vavuniya Divisional Secretariat Mr K. Thayaparan, Atty Mr. S. N. G. Nathan, Director of Community Development Organization

In February, CWD retained four lawyers, two in Jaffna, one in Vavuniya, and one in Batticaloa. CWD lawyers provided legal services to 19 new clients in February and 25 new clients in March, including two GBV cases. The breakdown of cases is as follows.

February 2015:

		Number of	Damaska/				Age group		
Location	Type of Legal Aid	New Clients under USAID	Remarks/ Type of case	Ethnicity	Income Level	Gender	1-10 years	10-29 years	30+ years
Jaffna 1) Joney Mathuranayagm	0 Legal Advice 3 Legal Representation	3	1 Maintenance 1 Land issue 1 Adoption	2 Tamil 1 Muslim	Low	3 Women			3
Jaffna 2) Shiyani Douglas	1 Legal Advice 3 Legal Representation	4	1 Adoption 1 Divorce 1 Land issue 1 Counseling	4 Tamil	Low	2 Men 2 Women		2	2
Vavuniya	5 Legal Representation	5	1 Maintenance 1 Separation 1 Land issue 2 Advice	4 Tamil 1 Muslim	Low	5 Women			5
Batticoloa	7 Legal Representation	7	4 Maintenance 1 Cheating 2 Land issue	6 Tamil 1 Muslim	Low	7 Women		2	5

March 2015:

		Number of	Domesko/Type of		Income		Age group		
Location	Type of Legal Aid	New Clients under USAID	Remarks/Type of case	Ethnicity	Income Level	Gender	1-10 years	10-29 years	30+ years
Jaffna 1) Joney Mathuranayagm	5 Legal Representation	5	4 Maintenance 1 Domestic violence	5 Tamil	Low	5 Women		2	3
Jaffna 2) Shiyani Douglas	7 Legal Representation	7	6 Maintenance 1 Loan problem	4 Tamil 3 Christian	Low	7 Women		5	2
Vavuniya	4 Legal Representation 1 Legal Advice	5	2 Loan problem 1 Maintenance 1 Land issue 1 Advice	5 Tamil	Low	2 Women 3 Men		1	4
Batticoloa	8 Legal Representation	8	5 Maintenance 1 Child abuse 1 Land issue 1 Loan problem	8 Tamil	Low	8 Women		3	5

D. Second Round Call For Proposals For Legal Aid Services

On December 23, CSI.ROL issued a second Request for Applications (RFA) for the provision of Legal Services for vulnerable and marginalized populations and for raising public awareness about civil rights, access to courts and legal services. CSI.ROL received four grant applications in this second round call for proposals. After reviewing proposals and meeting with potential NGO grantees, the CSI.ROL team selected two project proposals for grant awards. These proposals, by NGOs ADT and Change, were forwarded to USAID on March 26 along with the grant negotiation memo and pre-award survey.

ATTACHMENT A. BASL DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN

BAR ASSOCIATION OF SRI LANKA 2015–2019 STRATEGIC PLAN

Members of the Executive Committee of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka (BASL) met on January 24, 2015 to participate in a strategic planning session. The purpose of the session was to assess the current state of the Association, identify priority issues for the bar to address, and draft a Strategic Plan. The plan that evolved from that discussion identified six inter-related key priority areas for 2015–2019 and serves as the foundation for an Action Plan that will be developed in the coming weeks. The Action Plan will address the first two years of the Strategic Plan and will be reviewed and updated annually. Responsibility for each action item will be assigned to a Board committee and supporting staff for follow up.

It is important to note that the BASL leadership embarked on strategic planning not to solve a particular problem or crisis, but to ensure that the BASL is able to evolve to meet the changing needs of the legal community and the Sri Lankan community at large, particularly given the changing political environment and its potential impact on the rule of law in the country.

Session Participants:

BASL Mangement:

- Mr. Upul Jayasuriya, President
- Mr. P. S. Jayawardena, Deputy President
- Mr. Geoffrey Alagaratnam
- Mr. Ajith Pathirana
- Mr. Rajindh Perera
- Mr. Anura Maddegoda
- Mr. Priyantha Gamage
- Mr. Champaka Ladduwahetty
- Mr. Madhubashana Ariyadasa, Junior Member
- Mr. Eraj De Silva, Junior Member

Zonal Vice Presidents:

- Mr. Sajeewa Gunarathne
- Mr. R.A.P.Ranasinghe
- Mr. Anton Punethanayagam
- Ms. K.I.S. Nagarathne
- Ms. Ajitha Samarasekera
- Mr. Wasantha K. Weerasinghe

Study Tour Participants:

- Mr. Sandamal Rajapakse
- Ms. Nayomi Wickramarathne

Other Participants:

- Ms. Barbara Berger Opotowsky, ABA ROLI
- Ms. Jennifer Rasmussen, ABA ROLI
- Ms. Sehar Raziuddin, ABA ROLI

The Executive Committee developed the following overarching role for the BASL:

The Bar Association of Sri Lanka educates the public on their rights and duties, advocates and promotes the rule of law and good governance, and ensures justice for all.

To achieve this, the BASL provides a professional home for the legal community that cultivates high ethical and professional standards, promotes reform of the law for the public good and the fair and effective administration of justice, and fosters strong relations between the Bench and the BASL.

OVERVIEW

The following sections outline the six priority areas for the BASL's Strategic Plan over the next five years. During the strategic planning process, several conversations went deeper into the priority issues and why they are central to the BASL's success. These issues are highlighted with the potential action steps that will form the basis for the Action Plan.

During the strategic planning session, the participants identified the six areas of greatest need and prioritized them. In order of importance, the six priority areas identified are:

- 1. Advocacy on Critical Rule of Law Issues (including access to justice)
- 2. Support for Outstation Bars (including better infrastructure and timely access to information)
- 3. Financial Stability and Sustainability of the BASL
- 4. Enhance the Profession (specifically increase support for the Junior Bar, CLE, diversity within the profession, and ethics)
- 5. Consolidating and Enhancing the BASL's Support
- 6. Expansion of the Legal Profession.

A number of the priorities are interdependent. For example, improved technology supports continuing legal education (CLE) and support for the Outstation bars; CLE supports ethics; and charging for CLE impacts financial stability. Thus, although discussed separately, these priorities are part of a greater whole for an enhanced BASL with increased impact on the profession and society at large.

The areas identified during the strategic planning session informed the recent BASL study tour delegation to the ABA Midyear Meeting in Houston, Texas, and the meetings arranged for the delegation during its time in Washington, DC. Under the BASL-ABA Friendship Agreement,

two additional study tours will take place within the next 18 months. The next two study tours will also focus on sharing the legal experiences of bars and other justice sector actors on issues identified in this Strategic Plan. To ensure the study tours explore a wide range of experiences, the next two study tours will focus on commonwealth countries which have faced similar challenges, potentially Malaysia, Singapore and/or South Africa.¹ These study tours will be arranged in close cooperation with the national bars and other legal non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Prior to arranging these study tours, the ABA will consult closely with BASL leadership and study tour members to ensure the most productive schedule that is in line with BASL's identified needs and concerns.

PRIORITY AREAS IDENTIFIED FOR 2015–2017

I. ADVOCACY ON CRITICAL RULE OF LAW ISSUES

Over the last few years, the BASL has been a catalyst for change within Sri Lanka. The BASL has opposed the removal of the Chief Justice, challenged infringements on legal rights, and closely monitored candidates' practices prior to the election and polls during the election. The BASL has had a significant impact on recent events affecting the rule of law in Sri Lanka.

In addition, it is critical that Sri Lankans are aware of and take advantage of their rights. An educated public is essential to ensure gains made for Sri Lankan democracy, and the BASL has an important role to play in educating the public. Imparting the fundamentals of democracy to the people is critical for conditions for life in Sri Lankan society and for generations to come. Advocating for the rule of law and access to justice is the primary purpose of a bar association, and the BASL plans to build on the foundation that has been established.

There are four initiatives that can enhance the BASL's impact on the rule of law, access to justice, and the fair and effective administration of justice.

A. Advocacy on Key Rule of Law Issues

The BASL is highly regarded for its strong stands on judicial and other policy issues. The BASL should build on this strength to facilitate change, particularly given the current political environment. The time is ripe for the BASL to continue its efforts to support the rule of law and reforms aimed at enhancing the rule of law in Sri Lanka, including its active participation in constitutional reform. Policy positions that the BASL may support are enhanced by strong research.² To support the BASL leadership in this area, professional staff with adequate legal qualifications should be retained to provide the information to support BASL policy positions.

Other advocacy issues for the BASL to consider include advocating with the Ministry of Justice for better infrastructure support for lawyers in the Outstations, promoting stronger legal protections for indigent, minority, and vulnerable populations, including the criminally accused, and amending or re-drafting laws that enhance rule of law protections.

Next Steps: Remain flexible and responsive to issues as they arise; enhance research abilities of professional staff; consider hiring professional staff with specific research skills; raise awareness

¹ USAID will need to approve the study tour destinations.

² ABA would also be pleased to provide international standards on a range of legal issues, if desired.

of critical legal issues among the public, lawyers and judges. Task the relevant Committees with developing an advocacy strategy to enhance access to justice for the most disadvantaged. Task a Committee with following and advising on critical rule of law reforms proposed by the new government.

B. Access to Justice

Educating Sri Lankans on their rights and how the justice system should function will help develop a democratic and inclusive society island-wide. As people begin to understand and demand their rights, the BASL's critical role will be to ensure that individuals have the recourses available to pursue and secure their rights, rather than being persuaded by misinformation, disinformation, or false promises and handouts. Providing people of low or modest means with meaningful access to justice is central to the BASL's mission. Through the BASL's participation in the Legal Aid Commission (LAC), it actively engages with enhancing access to justice on civil law issues. Although the LAC is able to meet the civil legal needs of the most disadvantaged, the ability of those living just above the poverty level to adequately address their civil legal needs should be more closely examined by the BASL. For criminal law issues, the State, through the courts, manages a "pro bono" roster, although there are concerns that the process for assigning cases is not as transparent as it should be and that delays in appointment of counsel impact access to justice for the criminally accused. Further debate and discussion as to how the BASL can best meet the needs of all citizens is necessary.

Next Steps: Consider developing and implementing an island-wide program to increase public understanding of individual rights, how the justice system and democracy should function, and the advantages of an inclusive society. Task the relevant Committees to identify barriers to accessing a lawyer and to recommend potential innovative solutions that the BASL can support. Identify ways for the BASL to continue to promote a culture of pro bono work. Consider developing and presenting a pro bono award to lawyers who have demonstrated a unique commitment to pro bono work. Consider how the need for legal services and the under use of junior lawyers could be addressed holistically, and potentially create small economic opportunities, as well as potential skills development under the mentorship of more senior lawyers.

C. Liaison with Government Actors with a Particular Focus on Bench-BASL Relations

To maximize effectiveness, it is critical that the relationship with critical government actors in the legal sector, particularly the judiciary, be strong. Given the change within the judiciary, the time is ripe to pursue a renewed engagement with the Bench. As the Bench considers changes to the legal process and procedure, it will be to the BASL's advantage to be engaged on these issues in a constructive manner that recognizes current challenges to the system. Engagement with the Ministry of Justice will also be key for accomplishing other identified priorities, such as support for the Outstation bars.

Next steps: Develop a plan to increase exchanges with members of the judiciary, including the possibility of a periodic meeting to discuss issues of concern. Activities could range from informal social gatherings for the Bench and BASL to more formal working groups with members of the courts and the BASL to determine court needs and how the BASL can help initiate change. Develop a plan for strategic engagement with the Ministry of Justice to ensure key areas identified by the BASL are prioritized.

D. Independence of the BASL

In addition, the BASL should continue to maintain and preserve the BASL's independence by advocating publicly for the role of lawyers and the importance of the rule of law, and maintaining strong ties with international, regional, and foreign bar associations. As the BASL has asserted, it is an independent and neutral body. Its continued promotion of the rule of law under the new government will help cement its status as a leading NGO.

Next Steps: Develop a Communications Plan to help continue to ensure the BASL's messages are consistent, neutral, and targeted. Engage with the ABA under the auspices of the BASL-ABA Friendship Agreement. Continue to maintain contact with other relevant lawyers' organizations such as LawAsia and the International Bar Association.

2. SUPPORT FOR OUTSTATION BARS

While the majority of lawyers are based in or work primarily in Colombo, a significant number (38%) work outside of the capital and service a large portion of the population (approximately 80%). Lawyers practicing in the outstations have limited access to information, fewer economic opportunities, and inadequate infrastructure for their work, including space within the courts, seats for lawyers in the courthouse, and functional restrooms for female lawyers. Because the quality and availability of resources varies by court, it will be important to analyze the needs of individual courts and Outstation Bars.

The majority of CLE opportunities are in Colombo, and information about case decisions and new laws filters slowly to the outstations. Language issues continue, with information often only accessible in English or Singhalese. Outstation lawyers' inability to easily access judgments, legislation, and regulations creates significant challenges, particularly for junior lawyers.

Next steps: Task the Outstation Bars Committee to survey outstation bars on their individual needs to develop a comprehensive plan; continue to expand the BASL newsletter and ensure its delivery of relevant, timely legal information; identify ways to enhance the delivery of information to the outstations; develop more CLE opportunities for the outstations; create an advocacy strategy for engaging with the Ministry of Justice on infrastructure issues facing the outstations.

3. FINANCIAL STABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY OF THE BASL

To ensure the financial stability of the BASL, it is important to guarantee that adequate resources are available to implement the BASL's many programs. It is particularly important to address this issue quickly since the BASL has been operating in a deficit for the past few years. Prior reliance on interest from membership dues to sustain the organization is no longer viable in the current economic environment.

Currently, the BASL operates with financial support, including support for four staff positions, from United States Agency for International Development (USAID) provided through Millennium DPI. The four positions are a chief financial officer, program manager, research staff and fundraising specialist. The contractual funding for these positions will expire at the end of the CSI.ROL project in September 2016. Thus, in addition to new staffing needs identified, funding should be developed to maintain any of the four positions determined critical to continue.

The BASL currently is funded with both dues and non-dues income. A budget of diverse income streams provides a strong foundation, allowing variances in one income stream in a particular year to be compensated for by others.

BASL Executive Committee members recognize that increasing costs within the profession will be challenging and will present an unwelcome change. However, for the future of the organization, closely examining where revenue could be generated and how to offset or overcome resistance from members is essential.

Membership Income: The Executive Committee identified two potential areas for dues increases:

- Review membership fee scales and consider increasing the dues of current members.
- Require all lawyers, not just those that seek BASL voting privileges, to pay dues.

Non-Dues Income: Current sources of non-dues income should each be reviewed to determine if revenue streams can be enhanced or efficiencies created, and new areas of non-dues income should be explored. Areas to be reviewed that were identified include:

- Lawyers' directories and other publications
- Sales of items including pins and identity cards
- Income from car passes
- Special fundraising events
- Sponsorships
- Rental of auditorium
- Charging for CLE
- Arbitration Center
- Certifying lawyers in specialty law.

Scrutiny of Expenses: Finally, the Executive Committee, with the assistance of the potential new position of a Chief Executive Officer, should increase scrutiny on financial expenditures to ensure that funds are being appropriately allocated and applied. This could be assisted by the development of a business plan that maximizes the most effective use of existing resources, including staffing, and identifies operational areas that require additional funds or are capable of raising new revenue.

Next steps: Review all aspects of current membership and non-dues income together with potential additional income streams. Create a list of possible income streams (projects) on an annual basis. Ensure all projects are profitable, eliminate losses, and cull activities unless profitable, or make a strategic decision to keep unprofitable activities. Develop skills in approaching potential donors, including report writing, financial systems, and budgeting. Task the CLE Committee with developing a CLE program that raises revenue. Maximize income from the auditoriums. Carry out a work study of the BASL, initiate an MSI system, and improve IT. Increase revenue from publications. Identify any statutes or Supreme Court rules that may limit the BASL's ability to act. Develop a comprehensive business development plan.

4. ENHANCE THE PROFESSION, WITH A SPECIFIC FOCUS ON THE JUNIOR BAR

Enhancing and elevating the level of professionalism in the BASL is essential for ensuring its ability to effectively advocate for rule of law and instilling public trust in the BASL. Well trained, ethical lawyers from all sectors of society are an essential aspect for achieving a functioning justice system, ensuring access to justice for all, and promoting the rule of law.

Junior lawyers face particular challenges where the BASL's support can be instrumental, and the Junior Bar has the potential to be a key actor in addressing these challenges. On its own initiative, the Junior Bar convened the Junior Bar Forum in 2014. The Forum encouraged a dialogue between members of the Junior Bar and other key legal stakeholders about the challenges and needs facing new lawyers and those entering the profession. While many of the challenges identified by the Junior Bar impact the entire BASL, efforts to alleviate these problems must acknowledge the disparate impact on junior members of the BASL and identify specific interventions aimed at those members.

Among the issues identified by the Junior Bar that impact the entire legal profession is the need to improve the legal and practical skills of lawyers. There has been growing concern about the lack of practical skills young attorneys have before beginning the practice of law. Much of their legal education has been theoretical rather than the developing the skills needed to practice. Less urgent, but still important, is the continuing need for education as an attorney progresses in practice. The BASL has made significant strides in developing CLE programs in recent years. The CLE committee should review the current CLE offerings and develop a plan for enhancing the variety of programs as the development skills training is critical. The BASL should request that the Chief Judge require annual CLE for all lawyers.

In addition to content, the CLE delivery method must be updated. Although in-person CLE is a strong model, a nationwide bar association has to address many communities at a distance, particularly if it is to meet the needs of the outstation lawyers. Although technology today allows for distance learning, the BASL's member associations are not currently equipped to take advantage of technological innovation. In addition to reviewing the content of the BASL's offerings, building the technological infrastructure across the country together with enhancing the BASL website will dramatically increase the impact of the CLE initiative.

Diversity within the BASL is essential to ensure that individuals practicing law reflect the culture, values, and diversity of the public, and to bring different cultural, ethnic, religious, and gender perspectives to bear to solve justice issues faced by all Sri Lankans. A truly diversified BASL with access to necessary resources is required to ensure that all citizens receive equal justice under the law. For this reason, the BASL must consider the specific needs of its less represented constituency, particularly women and lawyers in the outstations, particularly Tamil areas.

Finally, lawyers committed to the rule of law must have a professional association founded on the principles of justice, fairness, and equity. These principles must originate within the profession, and the BASL is committed to upholding these principles in its members by ensuring that ethics violations are adequately addressed. While the Sri Lankan judiciary has the statutory responsibility for disciplining attorneys, the BASL can also play an important role in ensuring the profession upholds the highest ethical standards. As former Australian High Court Justice Michael Kirby has stated, the challenge is "[t]o preserve and, where necessary, to defend the best

of the old rules requiring honesty, fidelity, loyalty, diligence, competence and dispassion in the service of clients, above mere self-interest and specifically above commercial self-advantage."

A. Address the Needs of the Junior Bar

By prioritizing the needs of the Junior Bar, the BASL can take important steps to enhance the profession and elevate the level of professionalism within its youngest members. Key to addressing the needs of the Junior Bar will be a frank exploration of the economic realities within the profession. Any efforts aimed at the Junior Bar must also engage them in the planning and implementation.

Next Steps: Beginning with an examination of the recommendations that arose out of the Junior Bar Forum 2014, map out the key action items for the BASL to take to support its junior members. Such key actions may include: greater emphasis on development of legal and soft skills (negotiation, legal management, finance) as well as ethics and professional conduct; emphasis on the needs of junior lawyers in the Outstation Bars (infrastructure, facilities, and financial stability); expand and diversify CLE, consider making CLE mandatory. Highlight the role of young lawyers within the BASL and the profession by identifying concrete steps to enhance young lawyers' initial experience in the profession, in part by supporting a Junior Bar Forum 2015 which engages with key government actors and senior members of the bar.

B. Continuing Legal Education

Central to the mission of the BASL is ensuring that its members have the skills and capacity to meet the justice needs of its country's citizens. Being a professional requires a life-long commitment to continuing to improve your skills and knowledge. Developing innovative ways to engage with lawyers within and outside of Colombo is key, as is determining the effectiveness of existing or new programming. Monitoring and measuring the impact of CLE on professionals' skills is not only essential for ensuring CLE resources are effective, but can also be influential in convincing skeptical practitioners of its usefulness. CLE also has the potential to generate revenue for the organization.

Next steps: Review the current CLE offerings and develop a plan for enhancing the curriculum with an emphasis on additional skills training. Task the CLE Committee with developing standards for CLE, a plan for the level and frequency of offerings, and an on-going systematic CLE program; initiate a dialogue with the judiciary on requiring CLE for all attorneys (mandatory CLE); consider developing CLE that leads to specialized certification in specific legal areas. Develop efforts to monitor and evaluate CLE programming to ensure the highest standards and greatest retention of information. Support the efforts of the Lawyers' Skills Development Committee to develop practical interactive training methodologies. Steps to increase distribution of CLE should include training people to train others and enhanced technology. Recognizing that it may be financially prohibitive to enhance technology in all member Associations, regional technological development should be explored.

C. Ethics

The BASL currently has committees (the Ethics and Professional Conduct and the Professional Purposes Committees) to address complaints between members of the justice community and client complaints. The efficacy of these programs should be reviewed. In addition, this work

should be complemented by additional programs that raise awareness of ethical issues by members of the BASL and the public.

Next steps: Task the Ethics and Professional Conduct Committee with reviewing the current ethics programs to ensure that they are adequate and make recommendations for potential additional ethics initiatives to increase awareness and adherence to existing standards. Convene a regular dialogue with the judiciary about attorney discipline for ethics violations. Consider developing specific CLE programs on ethics-related issues. Identify potential platforms for addressing ethics within the profession on a routine basis, such as the Junior Bar Forum, Bar Council meetings, or other events. Require ethics training for all practicing attorneys as a condition of certain BASL benefits. Advocate to the courts for a mandatory CLE ethics component.

D. Diversity

The full potential of the legal community is limited by the inability of all members to fully participate in the profession. A large number of the women who are admitted to the BASL do not practice law. Lawyers who do not speak English or have limited English skills also face significant barriers to accessing information and engaging with the justice system.

Next steps: Create a Board Committee to address issues of diversity, including identifying barriers for women or minorities' full participation in the profession, and make recommendations to expand participation and promote a more inclusive association. Advocate to the Ministry of Justice on the need for Tamil-speaking justice sector actors. Produce BASL materials in all three official languages whenever possible. Produce key BASL documents in all three languages.

5. CONSOLIDATING AND ENHANCING THE BASL'S SUPPORT

Critical to the efficiency and effectiveness of the BASL is the proper coordination and control of programs and activities through a consistent, consolidated management structure for its staff. Staff can be essential for ensuring continuity in an association where leadership transfers every year or two years. BASL infrastructure, including management systems, IT, and financial systems, all require in-depth knowledge and expertise. Furthermore, by having a competent, highly functioning support staff, leadership's time becomes available for the more critical duties.

At this stage, the BASL identified two key components to enhancing the BASL's internal systems. This approach underscores the need for an "In then Out" approach, which recognizes that the success of the BASL in achieving its public mission is dependent on a functioning internal structure, as identified by incoming BASL President Mr. Geoffrey Alagaratnam.

A. Technology

Being a national bar association with 73 member bar associations spread throughout the country poses special challenges. A strong technological infrastructure would greatly increase the ability of the BASL to manage its internal operations as well as enhance its outreach to its members. For example, a Colombo-based CLE program could be made available online throughout the country through the BASL website. Such open access to information would dramatically increase its impact and address several priorities listed above, such as the needs of the outstation lawyers to access information and the need to increase young lawyers' access to the practical skills and knowledge.

Toward this end, the BASL has already issued a Request for Proposals for an IT provider and identified the need for trained staff capable of supporting the IT systems. It will be important for the BASL to continue to assess and evaluate how the system is functioning and how it can be further enhanced or adjusted to meet the BASL's needs.

Next steps: Engage post-tender, technological expertise to assist the BASL in developing greater technological access nationwide, enhancing its website, and improving its internal IT capacity. Consider the IT needs of outstation bars to ensure the technology exists to make online information accessible. Consider other technological ways to reach bar members such as SMS. Manage the BASL's profile on social media. Consider instituting a Committee on IT, or task the CLE or Newsletter Committees with incorporating IT into their individual plans.

B. Staff

Officers and members of the BASL have contributed significant time to carry out the programs of the BASL. In recent years, support staff for these efforts has increased. However, without delegated responsibilities, their ability to assist and unburden the BASL leadership has been limited. In addition, it is difficult for the BASL officers to supervise all of these services, and they may find their time eaten up by attending to minor details. Consideration should be given to retaining a staff director with significant management expertise who would serve as Chief Executive Officer or Centralized Secretariat of the BASL. This would make staff responsibilities clearer, enhance the role staff would play in supporting the Board, and support the development of a clear business model. Most importantly, this would allow continuity and consistent support for BASL leaders to fulfill their roles.

Next steps: Draft terms of reference for a Chief Executive Officer (CEO), identify funds for the position, and begin recruiting. Imbue the position with the required authority to efficiently and effectively implement BASL leaders' priorities and to manage staff. Task the CEO with reviewing the operations of BASL staff, including identifying economic inefficiencies and pertinent needs, such as research staff and enhancing the development skills of existing staff.

6. LEGAL SERVICES

A key challenge to the legal profession in Sri Lanka is the increasing number of law graduates without a corresponding increasing demand for legal services. Suggestions for addressing these issues include: exploring the possibility of forming small firms, where pooling resources would support a few lawyers thereby lowering costs; increasing State-supported legal services by raising the means limit for accessing legal aid; identifying non-traditional legal employment opportunities; and limiting the number of new lawyers able to enter the profession. Another suggestion is for the BASL to consider how to engage and support its membership in the field of legal outsourcing. Capitalizing on the BASL's English language skills and British legal tradition, the BASL would market the skills of its members to consumers in the United Arab Emirates, Singapore, the United Kingdom, or elsewhere.

Next Steps: Comprise and task a high-level committee to explore the overarching issue of supply and demand for legal services, to consider how to regulate the number of new lawyers entering the profession, and to explore new professional opportunities, including non-traditional legal employment. Educate lawyers, particularly junior lawyers, on the use of IT to access international legal markets; provide CLE on international legal research and contracts relevant to

the outsource market; promote the skills of the BASL to potential clients. Host BASL-supported seminars on new or innovative legal practice models in Colombo and the Outstations.

ATTACHMENT B. ABA/BASL STUDY TOUR SCHEDULE

BASL-ABA Friendship Agreement Study Tour

ABA Midyear Meeting 2015, Houston, Texas; Washington, D.C.







February 3-14, 2015

ABA Rule of Law Initiative

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Welcome!

Dear BASL Delegation Members,

Welcome to the United States! As your host, the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI) would like to wish you a fruitful and pleasant stay while you are here.

Over the next week, you will be meeting with bar leaders, legal experts, practitioners and judges who are dedicated to promoting the rule of law. Many of these individuals have played important roles in the promotion of the legal profession in the United States. These meetings, along with opportunities to observe ABA meetings and CLE events, are critical to fostering information and experience sharing on the development of an effective and efficient bar association, able to serve the needs of its members, remain fiscally viable, and advance justice for all citizens. We are excited to be able to facilitate this study tour and are looking forward to a productive program in the days ahead.

We would like to take this opportunity to say a few words about safety. While the cities we will be visiting are generally safe, please keep in mind the following suggestions:

- Do not leave your personal belongings (including purses, wallets, cell phones, etc.) unattended in public spaces, including at restaurants and in hotel lobbies;
- In crowded places, keep your wallet in your front pocket, and keep your purse closed and held in front of you;
- Do not flaunt jewelry or cash in public and try not to carry too much cash;
- If you are out after dark, travel on main streets that are well lit and carry your hotel information with you;
- When in doubt of your destination or safety, take a taxi;
- In case of emergency, call 911 from any phone.

Houston, Texas in February should be a pleasant 60°F (15°C) with cooler evenings. Washington, D.C. will be much cooler with an average temperature around 37°F (3°C) and the possibility of snow and ice. While in Washington, DC, we recommend that you wear coats, scarves, gloves, a hat, and comfortable closed shoes. Our meetings will take place in heated or air-conditioned buildings, and appropriate business attire is suggested.

Below is our contact information. Please let us know if you need any assistance during your stay.

Jennifer Rasmussen, Director, ABA ROLI Asia & the Pacific

Cell: 001-310-442-0092; Email: Jennifer.Rasmussen@americanbar.org

Sehar Raziuddin, Senior Program Officer, ABA ROLI Asia & the Pacific

Cell: 001-301-788-1861; Email: Sehar.Raziuddin@americanbar.org

Travel Schedule

Tuesday, February 3, 2015

3:55 am Depart Bandaranaike International Airport, en route to Houston, Texas, George

Bush Intercontinental Airport, via Doha Qatar Airways Flight #663

Flying Time: 21 hours and 20 minutes

Time Change: -11:30 hours Arrival: 4:00pm (local time)

Hotel: Hyatt Regency Houston

1200 Louisiana Street Houston, Texas 77002 Phone: 001-7013-654-1234

Monday, February 9, 2015

1:03 pm Depart Houston, Texas en route to Washington, DC, Reagan International Airport via

United Flight #360.

Flying Time: 2 hours and 56 minutes

Time Change: +1 hour

Arrival: 4:59 p.m. (local time)

Hotel: One Washington Circle Hotel

One Washington Circle, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037 Phone: 001-202-872-1680 Confirmation #: 1295211

Saturday, February 14, 2015

8:20 pm Depart Washington Dulles International Airport, en route to Colombo, Sri Lanka,

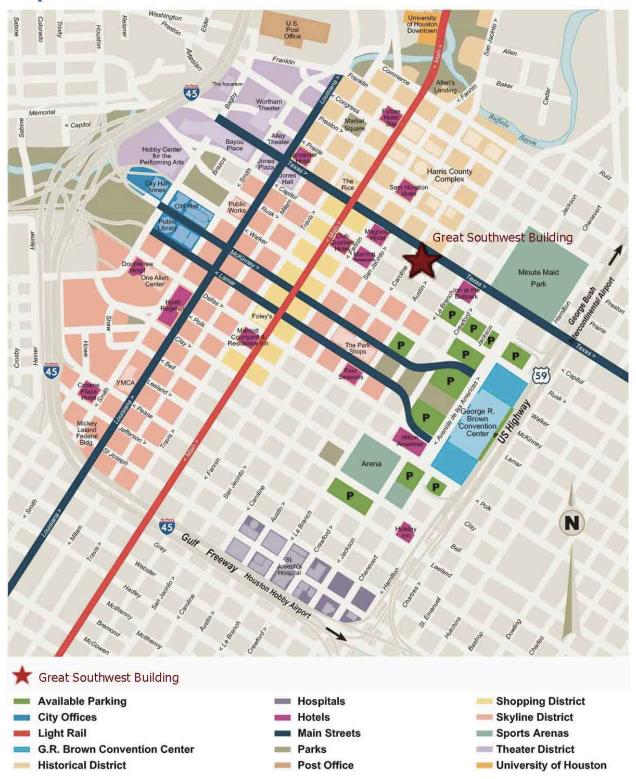
Bandaranaike International Airport, via Doha Qatar Airways Flight #708

Flying Time: 17 hours and 05 minutes

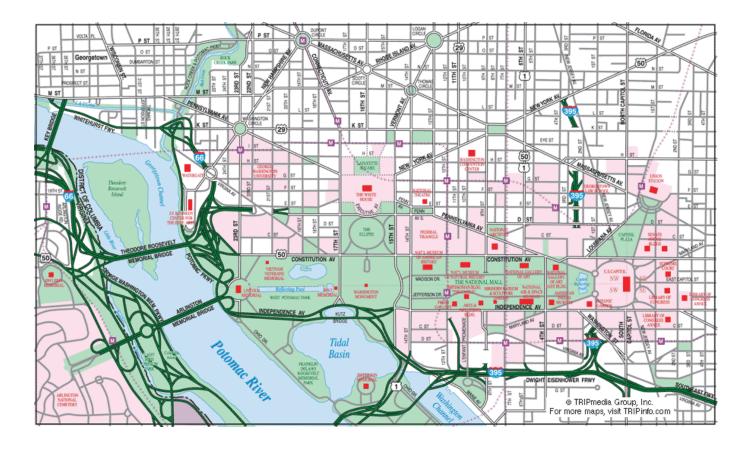
Time Change: +10:30 hours

Arrival: Monday, February 16, 2:25 am (local time)

Map of Houston



Map of Washington, D.C.



Detailed Agenda & Background Information

Tuesday, February 3, 2015

3:55 a.m.	Depart Bandaranaike International Airport, Qatar Airways Flight #663
4:00 p.m.	Arrive George Bush Intercontinental Airport
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Transit to the Hyatt Regency Houston and Check-in to Hotel Hyatt Regency Houston* 1200 Louisiana Street Houston, Texas 77002 Phone: 001-7013-654-1234 *Hotel check-in any time after 3p.m.

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Welcome Orientation Breakfast at Hotel (Hyatt Regency Houston) Presenters will provide a brief introduction to the ABA Mid-Year meeting, National Association of Bar Executives (NABE), National Conference of Bar Presidents (NCBP), and study tour agenda. Presenters: Barbara Berger Opotowsky, former Director, New York City Bar Association Jennifer Rasmussen, Director, ABA ROLI Asia & the Pacific Division Lynn Sferrazza, Program Manager, Millennium DPI Sri Lanka
10:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.	Depart Hotel via Shuttle Bus for Hilton Americas (1600 Lamar Street, Houston, Texas 77010)
10:20 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	National Association of Bar Executives, Joint Registration NABE/NCBP/NCBF (Hilton Americas, Level 2, Room 230 Foyer)
	Choice of two National Association of Bar Executives Sessions (Hilton Americas, 1600 Lamar Street, Houston, Texas 77010)
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Track 1: Recruiting and Maintaining Talent: Investing in Staff to Strengthen Your Association's Future (Hilton Americas, Americas B, Level 2)
	Attracting and retaining talented staff is essential. However, time, resources and staffing challenges tend to impede our ability to invest in long-term recruitment and retention strategies, inclusion and succession planning. Implications indicate that retaining multi-generational staff with diverse skills and backgrounds needs to be as high a priority as recruiting them. This workshop is designed to give you additional tools and techniques to help you avoid costly staffing errors, and for creating a workplace that supports diversity and pluralism. Whether your staff includes dozens of people or just a few, you will want to join our lively and informative discussion.
	Moderator & Speakers: Gregory P. Conyers, Director of Diversity, State Bar of Michigan Jill Eckert McCall, Director, Center for Professional Development, American Bar Association Gayle Jackson, Director of Human Resources, State Bar of Arizona

	Sharon E. Jones, President and Chief Executive Officer, Jones Diversity Group
	Track 2: The Perfect Fit: Welcoming and Engaging New Members (Hilton Americas, Americas C, Level 2)
	Your newest members have been enrolled in your database. Now what? During this session, bar executives and communications staff will showcase how they involve new members in their bar. Touch points, welcome packets, emails, events, logo merchandise, and projects that acclimate and immerse newbies will be covered.
	Speakers: Dominick Alcid, Marketing Manager, District of Columbia Bar Lowell Brown, Communications Division Director, State Bar of Texas Kallie Donahoe, Barristers Club Director, Bar Association of San Francisco Patricia A. Yevics, Law Office Management Assistant, Maryland State Bar Association
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch
	Choice of two National Association of Bar Executives Sessions (Hilton Americas)
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Track 1: From Student to Of Counsel: A Frank Discussion on Needs and Expectations (Hilton Americas, Americas A, Level 2)
	How do we meet the needs of both our newest and most experienced members? This panel discussion features law students and senior lawyers who will share their thoughts, questions and needs.
	Moderator & Speakers: Whitney von Haam, Executive Director, Wake County Bar Association Harry Gee, Attorney, Harry Gee and Associates, PLLC Marcos Soto, Student Bar President, Texas Southern University Allegra Sturns, Student Bar President, University of Houston Adam Taylor, Student Bar President, South Texas College of Law Norma Trusch, Attorney, Trusch - Attorney at Law
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Track 2: Structural Issues for Bars: Have We RISEN to the Challenge? (Hilton Americas, Americas B, Level 2)

	How do chief justices and legislatures view the various bar structures, and in what sorts of programming should bar associations engage? Whether you're a regulatory, mandatory, unified, voluntary or other type of bar, these issues have implications for all of us. We will have a roll call of all of the state bars to share what is happening across the country. Let's learn together and from each other. Speakers: Katherine A. Mazzaferri, Chief Executive Officer, District of Columbia Bar Helen D.McDonald, Executive Director, Rhode Island Bar Association Janet Welch, Executive Director, State Bar of Michigan
2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Break
	Choice of two National Association of Bar Executives Sessions (Hilton Americas, 1600 Lamar Street, Houston, Texas 77010)
2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Track 1: Database Decisions and Dashboards: Metrics that Manage and Move Bar Associations to Success (Hilton Americas, Americas B, Level 2)
	Database expectations are only part of the formula that supports measuring the metrics that determine the success of your association. Houston Bar Association Executive Director Kay Sim and Membership and Technology Services Director Ron Riojas will share the metrics that they found supported a comprehensive membership plan for outreach and engagement. Session attendees will have the opportunity to join facilitated table discussions with other bar leaders to discuss their challenges and successes with measuring membership numbers and identifying effective database options.
	Speakers: Ron Riojas, Membership and Technology Services, Houston Bar Association Kay Sim, Executive Director, Houston Bar Association Chris Manos, Executive Director, State Bar of Montana Helen D.McDonald, Executive Director, Rhode Island Bar Association Marc R.Staenberg, Chief Executive Officer, Beverly Hills Bar Association Mark Tarasiewicz, Executive Director, Philadelphia Bar Association

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Track 2: Two Heads Are Better than One (Hilton Americas, Americas C, Level 2)
	There are many groups that bar associations collaborate with on a regular basis to serve members and the public. The speakers of this session will share several stories and products that have resulted from positive partnerships with other bars, courts, community organizations and more.
	Speakers: Megan McNally, Director of Advancement, Washington State Bar Association Rick DeBruhl, Chief Communications Officer, State Bar of Arizona Mary Groth, Director of Development and Community Programs, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association
3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Break
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Meeting with Kay Sim, Executive Director, Houston Bar Association (Hilton Americas, Lobby)
	Ms. Sim will provide an overview of the Houston Bar Association, including its role in the legal profession, how they recruit and retain members, and how they operate.

Organizations and Projects:

American Bar Association (ABA). The American Bar Association is the largest voluntary professional association in the world. With nearly 400,000 members, the ABA provides law school accreditation, continuing legal education, information about the law, programs to assist lawyers and judges in their work, and initiatives to improve the legal system for the public. The ABA's mission is "to serve equally our members, our profession and the public by defending liberty and delivering justice as the national representative of the legal profession."

ABA Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI). ABA ROLI is an international public interest program of the ABA dedicated to promoting rule of law around the world. ABA ROLI currently has programs in over 50 countries, and covering a wide range of rule of law-related areas including legal profession and judicial reform, criminal justice reform, women's rights, and legal education reform.

National Conference of Bar Presidents. The National Conference of Bar Presidents (NCBP) was founded in 1950 to provide information and training to state and local bar association leaders. The current organizational members of NCBP include state, local and special focus bars from 53 states and territories and members include past bar leaders from these jurisdictions. The

primary mission of NCBP is to provide high-quality programming to current bar leaders at two meetings held each year contemporaneously with the annual and midyear meetings of the ABA.

National Association of Bar Executives. The National Association of Bar Executives (NABE) was founded in 1941 to serve the management staff of bar associations and law-related organizations. NABE is an independent not-for-profit organization. NABE is an affiliate of the American Bar Association and has received administrative services through the ABA since 1953. These services are provided through the Division for Bar Services (DBS) and were formalized in 1983. Since its founding NABE has had individual members, but up until 1987 it was considered an association of organizations. Dues were assessed on the bar association as a group, and each bar association had one vote, regardless of the number of members from that association. The mission of the National Association of Bar Executives is to enhance the skills and enrich the careers of bar association professionals.

Houston Bar Association. The Houston Bar Association's 11,000+ member attorneys have a continued commitment to serving the legal profession and the community. Established in 1870, the Association's purpose was to maintain high standards in the legal profession and provide legal education for Harris County attorneys. Today, the HBA, the fifth largest metropolitan bar association in the nation, still adheres to those basic principles, but has expanded its goals to include public service and better access to legal services for all citizens in the Greater Houston area. Continuing Legal Education and professional development programs for attorneys are second to none. HBA members contribute over 45,000 volunteer hours to community service projects each year. The HBA is a non-profit organization supported solely by member dues. In 1982, the HBA established the Houston Bar Foundation, a charitable vehicle through which many of the HBA's community service projects are funded. Membership in the Houston Bar Association is voluntary. An attorney does not have to join the HBA to practice law in Texas.

Thursday, February 5, 2015

8:00 a.m. – 8:40 a.m.	Review Meeting over Breakfast at Hotel (Hyatt Regency Houston)
8:40 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Depart Hotel via Shuttle Bus to Hilton Americas (1600 Lamar Street, Houston, Texas 77010)
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	ABA Board of Governors Program, Program Evaluation and Planning Committee (Hilton of the Americas, Level 3, Room 335A) BASL study tour participants will observe the Committee meeting.
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm (Track 1)	Track 1: Lunch
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. (Track 2)	Track 2: Lunch
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm (Track 1)	Track 1: Meeting with Rozina Damanwala, Program Officer, Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (Hilton Americas, Lobby)
1:30 pm – 5:00 pm (Track 2)	Track 2: ABA Board of Governors Program, Program Evaluation and Planning Committee (Hilton of the Americas, Level 3, Room 335A) BASL study tour participants will observe the Committee meeting.
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm (Track 1a)	Choice of two tracks: Track 1a: ABA Judicial Division Program, the Improvement of the Administration of Justice 8 th Edition Meeting (Hilton Americas, Level 3, Room 328) BASL study tour participants will observe the meeting.
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm (Track 1b)	Track 1b: Meeting with Jackie Casey, Director, ABA Fund for Justice and Education (Hilton Americas, Lobby)

Organizations and Projects:

ABA Board of Governors. The Board of Governors has the authority to act and speak for the ABA, consistent with previous action of the House of Delegates, when the House is not in session. The Board usually meets four times a year. It oversees the general operation of the ABA and develops specific plans of action. The Board is composed of 38 members of the Association: 18 district representatives, 13 members-at-large as follows: two young lawyers; one judicial representative; six section representatives, two women members-at-large, two minority members-at-large; one law student member-at-large; and the following 6 officers who serve as ex officio: President, President-Elect, Chair of the House; Secretary, Treasurer and Immediate Past President. Every three years there is a Secretary-Elect and a Treasurer-Elect bringing the total members of the Board to 40.

ABA Judicial Division. The Judicial Division (JD) has over 4,000 members, including federal, state and local trial, appellate, the administrative judiciary and lawyers. Division members must enroll in one of its six constituent Conferences based on court jurisdiction and specialization. The Judicial Division is dedicated to improve the American judicial system and to encourage all members of the judiciary, lawyers and others who share a strong interest in this goal to work toward this common objective.

U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor. Promoting freedom and democracy and protecting human rights around the world are central to U.S. foreign policy. The values captured in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in other global and regional commitments are consistent with the values upon which the United States was founded centuries ago. The United States supports those persons who long to live in freedom and under democratic governments that protect universally accepted human rights. The United States uses a wide range of tools to advance a freedom agenda, including bilateral diplomacy, multilateral engagement, foreign assistance, reporting and public outreach, and economic sanctions. The United States is committed to working with democratic partners, international and regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, and engaged citizens to support those seeking freedom.

ABA Fund for Justice and Education. The ABA Fund for Justice and Education (FJE) was created in 1963, as the Fund for Public Education, to allow the American Bar Association to solicit and accept tax-exempt gifts and grants in support of law-related public service and educational programs of the Association. For nearly 50 years, the ABA Fund for Justice and Education has raised contributions and grants from ABA members, the American Bar Endowment, law firms, corporations, foundations and government agencies. Today, the ABA Fund for Justice and Education provides the American Bar Association with over \$50 million annually in support through gifts and grants. Over 200 ABA public service and educational programs are supported through the ABA Fund for Justice and Education each year. These programs provide lawyers with the training and resources needed to help address the legal needs of our communities. There are five main areas of concentration for FJE-funded programs: (1) Access to Justice; (2) Children & Family Rights; (3) Public Education; (4) Professionalism and the Legal Profession; and (5) International Justice.

Presenters:

Rozina Damanwala has served as a Program Officer at the U.S. Department of State for nine years. Previously, she worked as an Analyst for the U.S. Office of Personnel Management. Ms. Damanwala received her B.S. from the Georgia Institute of Technology and her Master of Education from Harvard University.

Friday, February 6, 2015

7:40 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	Depart Hotel via Shuttle Bus to Hilton Americas (1600 Lamar Street, Houston, Texas 77010)
8:00 a.m. – 8:40 a.m.	Breakfast with National Association of Bar Executives Members (Hilton Americas, Houston Level 2, Americas D)
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. (Track 1)	Track 1: Participants depart Hilton Americas via Shuttle to George R. Brown Convention Center (1001 Avenida De Las Americas, Houston, TX 77010)
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. (Tracks 2 and 3)	Track 2 and Track 3: Participants depart Hilton Americas via Shuttle to Hyatt Regency Houston (1200 Louisiana Street, Houston, Texas 77002)
	Choice of three tracks:
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. (Track 1)	Track 1: ABA Standing Committee on the Law Library of Congress Program, How to Conduct FREE Legal Research Online (George R. Brown Convention Center, Level 3, Room 342 B/E)
	This program will cover both the legal research services and resources available from the Law Library of Congress, and other free online collections. Following an overview of the Law Library and its services available to lawyers, librarians, and researchers around the world, there will be an explanation of the organization and content of Congress.gov and THOMAS, the Library of Congress's federal legislative information sites, which together contain the full texts of House and Senate bills and resolutions, the Congressional Record, and much more. Learn about the Law Library's global research services, its vast worldwide collections, and expert staff.
	Speaker: Barbara Bavis, Senior Legal Reference Specialist, Law Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (Track 2)	Track 2: ABA Continuing Legal Education Program, Standing Committee on Continuing Legal Education Business Meeting (Hyatt Regency Houston, 2nd Level, Arboretum IV)
	BASL study tour participants will observe the Committee meeting.

9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. (Track 3)	Track 3: Solo, Small Firm and General Practice Division Program, CLE: Professional Responsibility - Don't Let This Happen to You (Hyatt Regency, 4 th Level, Sandalwood A/B) Come join us for an interactive program where we will explore actions by attorneys who maybe didn't understand or lost sight of the ethical rules. We will look at everything from their use of social media (ex. Twitter, blogging, Facebook, YouTube, etc.) for advertising, jury selection and communication; to their virtual offices; to their use of coupons for service; and everything in between, including seeing if we think the "punishment" fits the action. Don't let this happen to you!
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (Track 3)	Track 3: Criminal Justice Section Program, Free Speech and Accountability on Social Media: Where to Draw the Line (Hyatt Regency, 3 rd Level, Mesquite) The panel discussion will focus on the Elonis case which was recently argued at the US Supreme Court. In this case, the defendant posted threatening comments about his ex-wife on Facebook and was convicted of a federal offense. The appeal addresses whether his comments should be protected as free speech as opposed to criminal conduct. Speakers: Sherri Bevan Walsh, Summit County Prosecutor's Office Jeffrey R. Dion, Deputy Executive Director, National Center for Victims of Crime Washington, D.C. Rusty Hardin, Esquire Michael R. Moore, Beadle County State's Attorney
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (Track 1)	Track 1: Lunch
12:00 p.m. – 12:40 p.m. (Track 2)	Track 2: Lunch
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. (Track 3)	Track 3: Lunch
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. (Track 1)	Track 1: Commission on Homelessness and Poverty Program, Lawyers Working to End Poverty: A Conversation with Local Experts and National Advocates (George R. Brown Convention Center,

	Level 3, Room 352 E)
12:40 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. (Track 2)	Track 2 participants depart Hyatt Regency Houston via Shuttle to George R. Brown Convention Center (1001 Avenida De Las Americas, Houston, TX 77010)
1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. (Track 2)	Tracks 2: ABA Judicial Division Program, What Lawyers Want Federal Trial Judges to Know: A Candid Dialogue (George R. Brown Convention Center, Level 3, Room 361 B/E)
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Track 3)	Track 3: Solo, Small Firm and General Practice Division Program, CLE: 60 Tech Tips in 60 Minutes (Hyatt Regency, 4 th Level, Sandalwood A/B)
	60 Tips in 60 Minutes is a fast-paced presentation filled with new technology and advice on how to improve your law practice through the use of technology. Speakers Jeffrey Allen and Ashley Hallene will provide tips on everything from hardware to software and from cloud computing to security. Just for fun, they will also talk about helpful websites that you may want to check out. You will not want to miss this always popular program.
2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Tracks 1 and 2)	Tracks 1 and 2: ABA Commission on Women in the Profession: Men Joining Women for Change: Harnessing the Power of Inclusivity (George R. Brown Convention Center, Level 3, Room 342 C/F) Have you wondered how to "shatter the echo chamber" and involve men as active partners in changing law practice in ways that will enable everyone to utilize their skills and talents to the fullest without being held back by old stereotypes? Join us as Ida Abbott, author of the newlypublished book, Sponsoring Women: What Men Need to Know, describes practical steps that managers can take to advocate for the advancement and retention of women in the legal profession. Speakers: Ida Abbott Amy Chronis, Partner, Deloitte & Touche, Mark Coffin, Managing Partner, Seyfarth Shaw's Houston Office Honorable R.K. Sandill, Harris County District Court Michele Coleman Mayes, Chair, ABA Commission on Women in the Profession and Vice President and General Counsel of the New York Public Library

3:00 p.m. –	Track 3: ABA Center for Professional Responsibility Program,
5:00 p.m.	Coordinating Council for the Center for Professional Responsibility
(Track 3)	(Location TBD)
4:30 p.m. –	Track 1 and Track 2 Participants depart George R. Brown
5:00 p.m.	Convention Center via Shuttle to Hilton Americas (Hilton Americas,
(Tracks 1 & 2)	1600 Lamar Street, Houston, Texas 77010)
5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. (Tracks 1 & 2)	Tracks 1 and 2: Meeting with George Samuels, Secretary, South Asian Bar Association of Houston (Hilton Americas, Lobby)
7:00 p.m. –	(Optional) National Conference of Bar Presidents Reception
9:00 p.m.	(Museum of Fine Arts, 1001 Bissonnet Street, Houston, TX 77005)

Organizations and Projects:

ABA Standing Committee on the Law Library of Congress. Established in 1932, the committee serves to this day as the voice of the legal profession concerning the Law Library of Congress (LLC). Over the years, working with Members of Congress and their staffs, the committee has obtained higher levels of funding for the LLC. In addition, collaborating with other nationally recognized professional societies, the committee facilitates efforts to increase Law Library visibility and supports the digitization of legal materials and other efforts that improve access to legal literature and resources. The committee has continued to work toward the development of the LLC as a national resource serving not only Congress but also the legal profession, universities and law schools, and the public.

ABA Center for Professional Development. The Center is guided by the Standing Committee on Continuing Legal Education and works closely with experts from the ABA Sections and other entities and from the profession at large in developing programs and products. It serves as the central resource for the ABA and the profession for up-to-the-minute, quality CLE distributed through a variety of convenient formats. Its mission is to maintain the Association's role as the leader in continuing legal education by partnering with the Association's entities and diverse membership to create and deliver educational programs and services to our members and the legal profession that are innovative and of the highest quality.

ABA Center for Professional Responsibility. The Center provides national leadership in developing and interpreting standards and scholarly resources in legal and judicial ethics, professional regulation, professionalism and client protection.

ABA Solo, Small Firm and General Practice Division. The ABA Solo, Small Firm and General Practice Division is the national voice for solo, small firm and general practice lawyers,

providing a welcoming, diverse, and inclusive ABA home, offering a portal to the full resources of the ABA for solo, small firm and general practice lawyers, including military lawyers, and ensuring a platform of programs and collaborations that support and advance members in their practice and in improving the legal profession.

ABA Commission on Women in the Profession. The Commission on Women in the Profession is comprised of twelve members appointed by the ABA President. Its mission is to secure the full and equal participation of women in the ABA, the legal profession, and the justice system.

South Asian Bar Association of Houston. The South Asian Bar Association of Houston ("SABA Houston") is a local chapter of the North American South Asian Bar Association ("NASABA"), and serves as the regional voice for the South Asian legal community in Houston. SABA Houston is dedicated to the needs, concerns, and interests of lawyers of South Asian heritage by promoting the professional development of the South Asian legal community through networking, advocacy, and mentoring. SABA Houston is also dedicated to ensuring the civil liberties of and the provision of legal services to the South Asian community in Houston by educating the Houston South Asian community about our legal system and encouraging greater participation by the South Asian community in the legal profession and American government.

Saturday, February 7, 2015

8:00 a.m. – 8:40 a.m.	Review Meeting over Breakfast at Hotel (Hyatt Regency Houston)
8:40 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Depart Hotel via Shuttle Bus to Hilton Americas (Hilton Americas, 1600 Lamar Street, Houston, Texas 77010)
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Ceremonial Signing of Friendship Agreement between ABA and BASL (Hilton Americas, Level 3, Meeting Room 339 A/B)
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	ABA ROLI Asia Council Meeting (Hilton Americas, Level 3, Meeting Room 327)
11:00 p.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Meeting with the Honorable Judge Clifford Wallace, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit (Hilton Americas, Lobby)
12:00 p.m. – 12:40 p.m.	Lunch
12:40 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Depart Hilton Americas via Shuttle Bus to George R. Brown Convention Center (1001 Avenida De Las Americas, Houston, TX 77010)
	Choice of two tracks:
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Track 1)	Track 1: ABA Standing Committee on Publishing Oversight Program, Publishing Workshop (George R. Brown Convention Center, Level 3, Room 371 B/E) *Participants will need to leave this session 20 minutes early.
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. (Track 2)	Track 2: ABA Law Students Division Program, Negotiation National Finals Final Round Judges Briefing (George R. Brown Convention Center, Various Rooms)
2:30 p.m. – 3:40 p.m. (Track 2)	Break
3:40 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Depart George R. Brown Convention Center via Shuttle Bus to Hilton Americas (Hilton Americas, 1600 Lamar Street, Houston, Texas 77010)

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	ABA Bar Activities and Services Program, ABA Standing Committee on Bar Activities (Hilton Americas, Level 3, Meeting Room 346 A/B)
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Organizations and Projects:

ABA Standing Committee on Publishing Oversight. Consists of 12 members, eight from recommendations from the Section Officers Conference from Sections, Divisions and Forum Committees with existing publishing programs, and four at-large members. The Committee studies and recommends publishing policies and strategies to the Board of Governors and House of Delegates; provides policy oversight, supervision and direction to ABA publishing, exclusive of the ABA *Journal*; and works closely with the Director of ABA Publishing and with ABA Membership and Marketing.

ABA Law Student Division. The Division is concerned with legal education and works with the Section of Legal Education on issues of mutual concern. The Division also has an impact on practical and professional skills development and provides assistance in the search for jobs, both during and after graduation from law school. Additionally, the Division offers leadership training, public service opportunities, career development programming, and practical skills competitions. The Law Student Division was created in 1967, succeeding the loosely organized American Law Student Association. It is the largest professional student organization in the country and one of the largest dues paying entities of the Association. All students attending ABA-approved law schools are eligible to join.

ABA Law Student Division Negotiation Competition. The Competition promotes greater interest among law students in legal negotiation and provides a means for them to practice and improve their negotiating skills. The competition simulates legal negotiations in which law students, acting as lawyers, negotiate a series of legal problems. The simulations consist of a common set of facts known by all participants and confidential information known only to the participants representing a particular side. All of the simulations deal with the same general topic, but the negotiation situation varies with each round and level of the competition.

Being proficient in negotiation is an important skill-set for all lawyers no matter what area of practice you pursue. Quality representation of clients requires that one be able to negotiate contracts, settlements, and other agreements while working in the field. The ABA Law Student Division Negotiation Competition helps students build these essential skills by providing students a forum to negotiate under time constraints and in an area of law with which they may not be familiar

ABA Division for Bar Services. The Division is organized under four objectives: to serve as the primary communications link between the ABA and other bar associations; to provide staff support and/or liaison for key bar-related organizations; to provide education, training and management support services for bar leaders; and to serve as coordinating agency for ABA

services to bar associations. In addition, the Division serves an internal purpose as the ABA's coordinating entity for communication with bar associations. The Division continually seeks to improve its efforts to better serve the needs of state and local bar associations, to identify national trends, and to inform bar leaders of developments in issues of importance to the legal profession.

Presenters:

Judge Clifford Wallace is a native of San Diego, a Navy veteran, and a 1955 graduate of the University of California Boalt Hall School of Law, Judge Wallace has devoted more than 50 years to the law, as partner in a San Diego law firm, as a United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, and as member, and from 1991-1996 Chief Judge, of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Since assuming Senior status in 1996, Judge Wallace has spent much of his time traveling every continent of the world to promote the rule of law in developing countries. He was featured on the cover of the August 2009 edition of California Lawyer for this work. A prolific writer, lecturer, and teacher, he has taught courses in judicial administration in the United States and throughout the world and has consulted with more than 50 judiciaries worldwide. He developed the concept of the Conference of Chief Justices of Asia and the Pacific and originated the idea and developed the concept for the American Inns of Court. Judge Wallace and his wife, Dr. Jenee Wallace, have a blended family of 15 children and 51 grandchildren.

Sunday, February 8, 2015

8:00 a.m. – 8:40 a.m.	Review Meeting over Breakfast at Hotel (Hyatt Regency Houston)
8:40 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Depart Hotel via Shuttle Bus for Hilton Americas (1600 Lamar Street, Houston, Texas 77010)
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. (Track 1)	Meeting with Melissa Wood, Director, ABA Commission on Women in the Profession (Hilton Americas, Lobby)
9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (Track 2)	ABA Standing Committee on Legal Aid and Indigent Defendants (Hyatt Regency, Level 3, Dogwood Room)
	BASL study tour participants will observe the Committee meeting.
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. (Track 1)	Break
11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (Track 1)	Track 1: Lunch
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. (Track 2)	Track 2: Lunch
1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Track 2)	Track 2: ABA Standing Committee on Legal Aid and Indigent Defendants (Hyatt Regency, Level 3, Dogwood Room) BASL study tour participants will observe the Committee meeting.
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Track 1)	Track 1: Free time
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Track 2)	Track 2: Free time

Organizations and Projects:

ABA Commission on Women in the Profession. The Commission on Women in the Profession is comprised of twelve members appointed by the ABA President. Its mission is to secure the full and equal participation of women in the ABA, the legal profession, and the justice system.

ABA Judicial Division. The Judicial Division (JD) has over 4,000 members, including federal, state and local trial, appellate, the administrative judiciary and lawyers. Division members must enroll in one of its six constituent Conferences based on court jurisdiction and specialization. The Judicial Division is dedicated to improve the American judicial system and to encourage all members of the judiciary, lawyers and others who share a strong interest in this goal to work toward this common objective.

ABA Legal Services Corporation. The Legal Services Corporation (LSC), is the single largest provider of civil legal aid in the nation, distributing 95% of its federal appropriation to 134 legal aid programs, with over 800 offices, nationwide; at least one LSC grantee is present in each of the fifty states. LSC grantees provide direct services to approximately one million constituents who struggle to get by on incomes below or near the poverty line. Those benefiting from LSC-funded programs are among the most vulnerable Americans, including veterans returning from combat, domestic violence victims, those coping with the after-effects of natural disasters, families involved in child custody disputes, people with disabilities, and individuals undergoing foreclosures or other housing issues. Due to economic conditions, the number of people who qualify for legal services is at an all-time high; over 63.5 million Americans now are eligible for civil legal assistance.

Presenters:

Melissa Wood is the director of ABA's Commission on Women in the Profession. Ms. Wood has worked for the ABA for nearly 15 years as a manager for the Commission, as well as the Section of Litigation. Ms. Wood earned her B.A. from Purdue University and her M.S. in Public Service Management from DePaul University.

Peter Koelling is the director and chief counsel of the ABA Judicial Division. Koelling was a law clerk for the Texas Supreme Court, was in private practice and has worked in court administration in Texas, Washington, and Colorado. He also holds a Ph.D. from Northern Illinois University in the fields of public administration and public policy.

Monday, February 9, 2015

7:45 a.m. – 8:10 a.m.	Check out of Hyatt Regency
8:10 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Depart Hotel via Shuttle Bus for Hilton Americas (1600 Lamar Street, Houston, Texas 77010)
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Meeting with Art Garwin, Director, ABA Center for Professional Responsibility (Hilton Americas, Lobby)
9:30 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.	Depart Hilton Americas via Shuttle Bus to Hyatt Regency Houston (1200 Louisiana Street, Houston, Texas 77002)
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Travel to Airport via Super Shuttle Bus
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch at Airport
1:03 p.m. – 4:59 p.m.	Flight to Washington, D.C., Reagan National Airport United Airlines 360
4:59 p.m 6:00 p.m.	Airport transit and taxi to One Washington Circle Hotel (One Washington Circle, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037)

Organizations and Projects:

ABA Center for Professional Responsibility. The Center advances the public interest by promoting and encouraging high ethical conduct and professionalism by lawyers and judges. The Center provides leadership and guidance to the legal profession and the judiciary by developing, interpreting and promoting the implementation of policies and standards that govern the conduct and regulation of lawyers and judges, including examining the challenges and opportunities of today's global legal environment, and by producing scholarly and other resources. These efforts seek to assure that lawyers and judges perform their duties in a manner that advances respect for the rule of law, the legal process, the legal profession and the judiciary.

Presenters:

Art Garwin is the Director, American Bar Association Center for Professional Responsibility. He serves as Staff Counsel to the Center for Professional Responsibility's Publications Board,

Conference Planning Committee and Continuing Legal Education Committee. He also has served as Staff Counsel to the ABA Standing Committee on Professionalism, ABA Commission on Multidisciplinary Practice and ABA Task Force on the Model Definition of the Practice of Law. He has written numerous articles on professional responsibility, including 40 ethics columns for the ABA Journal, and a chapter in three editions of the ABA book, The Attorney-Client Privilege in Civil Litigation. He has appeared on two panels at the ABA National Conference on Professional Responsibility, of which he has served as director since 1994. He also has served as editor of The Professional Lawyer and Journal of the Professional Lawyer since 1994. He is the author of The Paralegal's Guide to Professional Responsibility (3rd Edition), co-author and editor of the Annotated Model Code of Judicial Conduct (Second Edition) and editor of A Legislative History of the Model Rules of Professional Conduct, 1982-2005.

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Breakfast at the Washington Circle Hotel
10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Depart One Washington Circle Hotel for U.S. Capitol and Capitol Hill (First St SE, Washington, DC 20515)
10:15 a.m. – 12:45 a.m.	Visit U.S. Capitol and Capitol Hill (1 First St Southeast, Washington, DC 20515)
12:45 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Walk to U.S. Supreme Court (1 First Street Northeast, Washington, DC 20543)
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Tour of the U.S. Supreme Court Presenter: Amy Fuqua, Assistant to Justice Anthony M. Kennedy
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Lunch
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Visit Library of Congress (101 Independence Avenue Southeast, Washington, D.C. 20540) OR
	Visit National Archives (700 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest Washington, D.C.)

Organizations and Projects:

U.S. Supreme Court. Article III, §1, of the Constitution provides that "[t]he judicial Power of the United States, shall be vested in one supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish." The Supreme Court of the United States was created in accordance with this provision and by authority of the Judiciary Act of September 24, 1789 (1 Stat. 73). It was organized on February 2, 1790. The Supreme Court consists of the Chief Justice of the United States and such number of Associate Justices as may be fixed by Congress. The number of Associate Justices is currently fixed at eight. Power to nominate the Justices is vested in the President of the United States and appointments are made with the advice and consent of the Senate. Article III, §1, of the Constitution further provides that "[t]he

Judges, both of the supreme and inferior Courts, shall hold their Offices during good Behavior, and shall, at stated Times, receive for their Services, a Compensation, which shall not be diminished during their Continuance in Office."

U.S. Library of Congress. The Library of Congress is the nation's oldest federal cultural institution and serves as the research arm of Congress. The Library's mission is to support the Congress in fulfilling its constitutional duties and to further the progress of knowledge and creativity for the benefit of the American people. Today's Library of Congress is an unparalleled world resource. The collection of more than 158 million items includes more than 36.8 million cataloged books and other print materials in 470 languages; more than 68.9 million manuscripts; the largest rare book collection in North America; and the world's largest collection of legal materials, films, maps, sheet music and sound recordings.

The National Archives. Since its opening in 1935, this magnificent neoclassical revival building has drawn researchers and visitors from around the globe who have come to research their own family histories and to explore the most important records of our democracy. The Rotunda for the Charters of Freedom, located on the upper level of the National Archives museum, is the permanent home of the original Declaration of Independence, Constitution of the United States, and Bill of Rights. Flanking the documents themselves are additional records from the National Archives, exploring the making of the charters and their influences, as well as their impact throughout history.

Wednesday, February 11, 2015

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Breakfast at the Washington Circle Hotel
9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Depart One Washington Circle Hotel for American Bar Association Offices (1050 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 450, Washington, D.C. 20036)
9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	ABA Midyear Meeting Review (ABA, Sandra Day O'Connor Room)
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Meeting with ABA Center for Human Rights (ABA, Sandra Day O'Connor Room) Presenters: Michael Pates, Director, ABA Center for Human Rights Monika Mehta, Staff Attorney, ABA Center for Human Rights Ginna Anderson, Staff Attorney, ABA Center for Human Rights
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m.	Meeting with Government Affairs Office (ABA, Sandra Day O'Connor Room) Presenters: Kristi Gaines, Senior Legislative Counsel, ABA Government Affairs Office Tom Susman, Director, ABA Government Affairs Office
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch and Walking tour of White House (1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest, Washington, DC 20500)
1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Walk back to for American Bar Association Offices (1050 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 450, Washington, D.C. 20036)
2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Meeting with Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, Jack Rives (ABA, Sandra Day O'Connor Room)
2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Depart for DC Bar (1101 K Street, NW Suite 200, Washington, DC 20005)

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Track 1: Meeting with the District of Columbia Bar (1101 K Street, NW Suite 200, Washington, DC 20005)
	Presenters:
	Karen Savransky, Senior Managing Attorney, Executive Office Saul Singer, Senior Legal Ethics Counsel, Office of Regulation Counsel Shannon Redd, Staff Attorney/Training Manager, Pro Bono Program
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Track 2: Sri Lanka After the Presidential Election through the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (1779 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036)
	Presenter:
	Mangala Samaraweera, Sri Lankan Minister of Foreign Affairs

Organizations and Projects:

ABA Center for Human Rights. The Center for Human Rights (CHR) addresses critical human rights issues, developing policy, projects, and educational initiatives to advance human rights both nationally and internationally. The Center's mission is to develop educational programs in the field of human rights; promote a greater understanding of and belief in the importance of human rights; collaborate with other ABA entities in the development and encouragement of human rights efforts, activities and programs; and assist in the development of appropriate ABA polices on human rights issues.

ABA Government Affairs Office. The ABA's Governmental Affairs Office (GAO) serves as the "eyes, ears and voice" of the organized bar in the nation's capital. The GAO coordinates the Association's activities, and all representation on behalf of the before governmental entities or officials must be coordinated with and through the GAO. The GAO conveys the views of the Association on a broad range of issues each year to numerous governmental entities. The GAO legislative staff arranges for ABA witnesses to testify before congressional committees and other governmental bodies; submits numerous written statements, position papers and letters advocating ABA policy on issues of interest to Congress; and meets regularly with Members of Congress and their staffs to convey the Association's concerns and views on matters of importance to the legal profession. The GAO also maintains an active grassroots lobbying effort and distributes periodic "alerts" to entities and state and local bar groups advising them of legislative developments that call for concerted action.

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace is a unique global network of policy research centers in Russia, China, Europe, the Middle

East, and the United States. Their mission, dating back more than a century, is to advance the cause of peace through analysis and development of fresh policy ideas and direct engagement and collaboration with decision makers in government, business, and civil society. Working together, the centers bring the inestimable benefit of multiple national viewpoints to bilateral, regional, and global issues.

Presenters:

Michael Pates is the Director for the ABA Center for Human Rights for fourteen years. He received his J.D. from Pennsylvania State University's Dickinson School of Law. Mr. Pates also directs the AIDS Coordination Project at ABA.

Monika Mehta is a staff attorney with the ABA Center for Human Right's Justice Defenders program, where she coordinates pro bono assistance for human rights defenders in South/Southeast Asia. She graduated with her JD from the University of Maryland School of Law and her BA in International Studies: Political Science and Economics from the University of California, San Diego. She has been admitted to the New York State Bar. She has done extensive international and comparative law research concerning human rights issues in India and the Asia-Pacific region generally. As a student in the International and Comparative Law Clinic at the University of Maryland, she drafted heads of argument for a case before the Supreme Court of Namibia concerning the right to water and coordinated know-your-rights workshops for communities in rural Namibia. As an intern for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Human Rights Law Section, she conducted research on human rights violators currently residing in the U.S.

Ginna Anderson is Senior Counsel to the American Bar Association (ABA) Center for Human Rights and the Deputy Director of its Justice Defenders Program, which coordinates pro bono legal support to human rights advocates facing legal retaliation or barriers to their work. Prior to joining the Center, she was a Georgetown Women in Law and Public Policy Fellow. She served as a legal fellow with the International Community of Women Living with HIV, where she advocated for the rights of women living with HIV and AIDS in global policy and practice. As a legal fellow at the DC-based Center for Health and Gender Equity, she analyzed U.S. foreign policy and legislation in the context of women's reproductive health rights. Ginna clerked for the Honorable Thad Heartfield, U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas. She received her JD from Georgetown University and a BA in Law, Letters, and Society from the University of Chicago.

Kristi Gaines is the Senior Legislative Counsel, in the ABA Government Affairs Office.

Tom Susman is the Director of the ABA Government Affairs Office.

Jack Rives began serving as the Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer of the American Bar Association on Law Day (May 1), 2010. Rives has overall management responsibility for staff operations at the Association's headquarters in Chicago, at its

Washington, DC office, and at program sites in more than 60 countries throughout the world. He oversees a staff of more than 900 and a consolidated budget of over \$200 million, and he ensures the effective development and direct implementation of the Association's strategic goals. He has responsibility for the programs and policy activities adopted by the ABA's governing and policy-making bodies, the Board of Governors and House of Delegates. Rives is responsible for membership and non-dues revenues issues, and for budgets that reflect the right priorities and appropriate cost-cutting initiatives. He helps to build the ABA's position as the world's premier professional association for lawyers and as the voice of the legal profession.

Karen Savransky is the Senior Managing Attorney of the Executive Office of the DC Bar.

Saul Singer is the Senior Legal Ethics Counsel of the Office of Regulation Counsel at the DC Bar.

Shannon Redd is a Staff Attorney/Training Manager for the Pro Bono Program in the DC Bar.

Thursday, February 12, 2015

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Breakfast at the Washington Circle Hotel
9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Depart One Washington Circle Hotel for American Bar Association Offices (1050 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 450, Washington, D.C. 20036)
9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Meeting Review (ABA, Sandra Day O'Connor Room)
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Meeting with Caroline Walters, Associate Section Director, ABA Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities (ABA, Sandra Day O'Connor Room)
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m.	Break
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch with ABAction! (ABA, Sandra Day O'Connor Room) Presenters: Bob Horowitz, Director Professional Services Division Holly O'Grady Cook, Director, DC Operations
1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Break
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Meeting with Theresa Melton, Manager, ABA Media Relations and Communication Services (ABA, Sandra Day O'Connor Room)
2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Depart ABA Offices via Taxi to Federal Judicial Center (1 Columbus Circle Northeast, Washington, DC 20544)
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Tour of Federal Judicial Center

Organizations and Projects:

ABA Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities. Created in 1966, the Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities provides leadership within the ABA and the legal profession in protecting and advancing human rights, civil liberties, and social justice. The Section fulfills our role by raising and addressing often complex and difficult civil rights and civil liberties issues in a changing and diverse society; and ensuring that protection of individual rights remains a focus of legal and policy decisions.

ABAction! ABAction! is a new initiative to increase membership and non-dues revenue.

ABA Media Relations and Communication Services. The ABA Media Relations and Communication Services division handles all external communications of the ABA.

Federal Judicial Center. The Federal Judicial Center (FJC) is the education and research agency for the federal courts. Congress created the FJC in 1967 to promote improvements in judicial administration in the courts of the United States.

Presenters:

Caroline Walters is the Associate Section Director of the ABA Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities

Robert Horowitz is the Director of the ABA's International Legal Technical Assistance Division as well as the Professional Services Division for DC. He has been with the ABA since 1975 in various capacities, and also continues to serve as the associate director of the ABA Center on Children and the Law. He is a former adjunct professor of Washington School of Law, American University, and a graduate of Georgetown University Law Center.

Holly O'Grady Cook is the Director of ABA's DC Operations. Ms. Cook is leading the ABA Action initiative.

Theresa Melton is the manager of ABA Media Relations and Communication Services.

Friday, February 13, 2015

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Breakfast at the Washington Circle Hotel
9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Depart One Washington Circle Hotel for American Bar Association Offices (1050 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 450, Washington, D.C. 20036)
9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Meeting Review (ABA, Sandra Day O'Connor Room)
10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Meeting with ABA Public Services (ABA, Sandra Day O'Connor Room) Presenters: Elizabeth Yang, Deputy Director, Public Services
10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Final Conclusion of Study Tour and BASL Action Plan session (ABA, Sandra Day O'Connor Room)
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Meeting with Eric Angel, Executive Director, Legal Aid DC (ABA, Sandra Day O'Connor Room)
12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Farewell Lunch with DPI at Rasika (1190 New Hampshire Ave, NW Washington, DC 20037)

Organizations and Projects:

ABA Public Services. Throughout its history, one of the goals of the American Bar Association has been to apply the knowledge and experience of the legal profession to promotion of the public good. This is the overriding mission of the Division for Public Services, providing staff support and expertise for attorney-directed programs and activities that lend focus, voice, and visibility to the Association's public service role. Through Public Services, the Association studies important legal and policy issues affecting society and formulates remedial responses ranging from policy positions to demonstration projects, model legislation, technical assistance, videos, clearinghouses, public education initiatives, working conferences, and publications.

Legal Aid DC. Legal Aid DC was created in 1932 with the goal of making justice real – in individual and systemic ways – for persons living in poverty in the District of Columbia. For more than 80 years, Legal Aid lawyers have provided a continuum of legal services to clients in the areas of domestic violence/family, housing, public benefits, and consumer law. In addition to providing direct representation, we also help clients avoid unnecessary legal entanglements through outreach and education, and help them resolve their own disputes with advice and other brief assistance.

Legal Aid also works to identify systemic issues that have an impact beyond an individual client. In such cases, we often seek structural solutions – from changes in law or regulatory schemes to a reform of government or court practice – to benefit our client community. And our nationally-recognized Barbara McDowell Appellate Advocacy Project, which pursues an anti-poverty agenda, litigates important cases affecting persons living in poverty before the D.C. Court of Appeals every year.

Presenters:

Elizabeth Yang is the Deputy Director of the Division for Public Services, and the Director of the Special Committee on Bioethics and the Law. She is also a part of the Standing Committee on Election Law.

Eric Angel has served as Legal Aid's Executive Director since December 2010. Prior to his appointment to this position by Legal Aid's Board of Trustees, Eric had been the organization's Legal Director for almost a decade. Under Eric's leadership in both of these roles, Legal Aid has grown nearly four-fold and dramatically increased the number of individuals it is able to serve and the quality of the legal representation it provides. Throughout his tenure at Legal Aid, Eric has served on a variety of D.C. Bar and Court committees including: the D.C. Bar's Landlord-Tenant Implementation Committee; the D.C. Superior Court's Small Claims Rules Committee; the D.C. Superior Court's ad hoc in Forma Pauperis and 9-I Rules Committees; and the D.C. Bar Foundation's Loan Repayment Assistance Program Advisory Committee. Eric is a past Co-Chair and Steering Committee Member of the D.C. Bar's Litigation Section. Currently, Eric serves on the District of Columbia Access to Justice Commission, to which he was appointed by the D.C. Court of Appeals in 2011.

Saturday, February 14, 2015

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Travel to Dulles International Airport
8:20 p.m.	Depart DC on Flight QA708

ATTACHMENT C. STUDY TOUR PARTICIPANT BIOS



Bar Association of Sri Lanka (BASL) Participant Bios

Upul Deshapriya, a Criminal Law Practitioner with 20 years of experience, is the Treasurer of the BASL. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the BASL and the Bar Council. He previously served as a member of the Environmental Committee and received his LL.B (Honors) from the University of Colombo Faculty of Law.

Priyantha Gamage is an Attorney-at-Law with over 18 years of experience in private practice in both the Original and Appellate Courts of the island. In 2004 he was selected from over 10,000 applicants to participate in a scholarship sponsored by the World Bank. He is actively involved in human rights through court representation and advocacy programs and is a Zonal Vice President of the BASL and a member of the Executive Committee.

Indika S. Nagaratne Koththagoda practices in the Civil Courts, Magistrate Court, High Court, and Court of Appeals in Sri Lanka and handles cases in civil law, conveyances, contracts, commercial and cooperate law, and labor law. She is the BASL's Zonal Vice President of the Southern Province, the President of the Branch Bar of Matara, and a member of the BASL's Executive Committee.

Anura B. Meddegoda is the Chairman of the National Law Conference Committee of the BASL. He is a member of the committee appointed by the President of Sri Lanka to study and assess the U.S. Department of State report on incidents during the recent conflict in Sri Lanka and is a partner of the Litigation Division of Varners, Lawyers, Notaries and Agents for Trade. He has served as a prosecuting trial attorney and Legal Adviser at the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal.

S.H.A. Mohamed serves as the chairman of the BASL standing committee for Labour Rights and is a delegate to the Bar Council of the BASL. He is an active practitioner in the field of industrial relations and international labor standards and has worked extensively with the International Labor Organisation. He also served as a local and international trainer for over 15 years.

Ajith Pathirana, a criminal law practitioner with 23 years of experience, is the Secretary of the BASL. He is a defense counsel who practices in Magistrate Courts and High Courts in the cases ranging from misdemeanor assaults to murder, as well as drug trafficking. He joined the profession in 1992 and has been a member of Executive Committee of the BASL since 2010.

Tharindu Rajindh Perera has been a Junior Counsel in the Chambers of Mr. Harsha Soza President's Counsel since 2006 and practices in various aspects of civil litigation before Original and Appellate Courts in Sri Lanka. He was elected Assistant Secretary of the BASL in 2014.

H.L. Sandamal Rajapakse is an Attorney-at-Law of the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka and a Commissioner for Oaths. He holds an LL.M in Advanced Company Law, Arbitration Law, and International Trade Law from the University of Colombo. He is the Convenor of the BASL and is a member of the Information and Communication Technology Committee.

Eraj de Silva has appeared for various groups before the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, and the government. He holds an LL.M from the University of Cambridge and was elected to the Executive Committee of the BASL in April 2013.

Gunaratne Wanninayake is a member of the Executive Committee of the BASL and is a member of the Human Rights Committee and the Law Reform Committee. He holds a law degree from the University of Colombo. Wanninayake has over 20 years of experience in criminal law practice.

Nayomi Wickramarathne is the Program Manager of the BASL's Programme Committee. She joined the BASL Legal Aid Foundation in 2011 in her apprenticeship period and has experience working with the United Nations Development Program's Equal Access to Justice Program Phase II at the BASL. She was also the Legal Officer and BASL Acting Administrative Secretary before she joined the Programme Committee. She received an LL.B from the University of Colombo Law Faculty with a Second class upper and an Attorney-at-Law with a First class honors.

ATTACHMENT D. BASL RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE

BASL Survey Questionnaire - Lawyer's Perspective on Efficiency, Performance and Priority Needs of the Court System of Sri Lanka

Defining efficiency

Merriam-Webster dictionary defines efficiency as "capable of producing desired results without wasting materials, time, or energy.

Defining court performance

International Court Performance standards define court performance as the actual and public perception of the courts ability to provide access to justice, timeliness in case processing, fairness and equal treatment, independence, accountability and public trust and confidence.

Defining effective case management

Effective case management is defined as the court systems use of proven best practices in case management to ensure timely disposition of cases and reduction of backlog.

SCREENING QUESTIONS:

1. Do you currently practice law on a regular basis? On a regular basis means you spend at least 50% of your work week (20 hours per week) on cases that are active in an original or appellate courts.

YES

NO

[Instructions to interviewer: If YES, continue interview. If NO, discontinue interview].

2. Do you currently have one year or more experience as a practicing lawyer in the Sri Lanka Court system?

YES

NO

[Instructions to interviewer: If YES, continue interview. If NO, discontinue interview]

QUESTIONNAIRE

SECTION I. LAWYERS PERSPECTIVE ON COURT PERFORMANCE

The following questions relate to your overall experience and your perception of your clients experience with the overall performance, ease of access, efficiency and fairness of the courts in which you practice on a regular basis.

	Circle the number	1 Generally Disagree	2 Disagree	3 No opinion	4 Agree	5 Generally Agree
1.	It is easy to obtain the information I need from the registry office when I come to the courthouse.	1	2	3	4	5
2.	An observer sitting in a courtroom's public seating area will have no difficulty hearing judges, attorneys, litigants, witnesses, and other participants in the proceedings.	1	2	3	4	5
3.	It's easy/convenient for me to find my way around the court premises or obtain any general information	1	2	3	4	5
4.	Court staff treat me with courtesy and respect when doing business with the court.	1	2	3	4	5
5.	The judge hearing my case listens to me and is courteous, respectful, and fair.	1	2	3	4	5
6.	My case, I have with the court is handled promptly and in an efficient manner.	1	2	3	4	5
7.	I understand the instructions given by court regarding my case and I know what I need do for the next hearing	1	2	3	4	5
8.	I feel safe that the court house has been provided with adequate security	1	2	3	4	5
9.	Overall, I think the court performs effectively	1	2	3	4	5
10.	(a) I am treated equally- my ethnicity, gender, economic status, age and/or experience makes no difference in how I am treated by the court	1	2	3	4	5

If answer to question 10 (a) is Generally Disagree or Disagree go to question 10 (b) if not go to question 12,

10 (b). Out of the following what are the grounds	s that you were not treated	d equally; (if only one groun	d mark that 1
and if more than one grounds rate them 1,2	,2,3,4, 5.		

i. Ethnicity	()
ii. Gender	()
iii. Economic Status	()
iv. Age	()
v. level of professional experience	()

SECTION II: EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF CASE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

	1	2	3	4	5	
	No Time limits exits		Informal time limits exists		Written time limits exists and been adopted and implemented	Don't Know
	individual judges gen adlines for steps before	-	onstrate commitment	to efficient	case management	by their actions in setting
	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know
	Generally No		Inconsistent		Generally Yes	Don't Know
	nen new case mana ministrators/judicial of		-			considered, do the cour
uui	ministrators/judiciar or	ncers const	iii wiin key members	of the Bar	Association that in	lay be affected?
udi	1	2	3	of the Bar	Association that in	ay be affected?
uui	•		·			Don't Know
14. Do	1 No	2	3 Occasionally	4	5 Yes, as a standard policy	
14. Do	1 No es the court maintain	2	3 Occasionally	4	5 Yes, as a standard policy	Don't Know and pending caseloads on
14. Do	No es the court maintain a gular basis?	2 records regu	3 Occasionally ularly showing trends	4 s in case fili	Yes, as a standard policy ings, dispositions a	Don't Know
14. Do reg 15. As	No es the court maintain rular basis? 1 No	2 records regu	3 Occasionally ularly showing trends 3 Occasionally	4 s in case fili	Yes, as a standard policy sings, dispositions as a standard policy sings, di	Don't Know and pending caseloads on
14. Do reg 15. As	I No es the court maintain in the sular basis? I No a lawyer how do you	2 records regu	3 Occasionally ularly showing trends 3 Occasionally	4 s in case fili	Yes, as a standard policy sings, dispositions as a standard policy sings, di	Don't Know and pending caseloads on a Don't Know

16.		•			-	nce/discussion with you and teps to be completed before
	1	2	3	4	5	D 24 W
	Never		Occasionally		Always	Don't Know
17.	Have you come acridentified by the cour			_	entially protracted	or complex cases can be
	1	2	3	4	5	
	No		Occasionally		Yes, as a standard practice	Don't Know
18.	Are there published prount staff, and bar me	_	ning the case manag	gement prod	eess that are readily	y available to judges, the
	1	2	3	4	5	D 111
	No		Exist for some areas		Yes	Don't Know
19.	In your experience w where no steps have	•			_	for identifying cases
	1	2	3	4	5	
	No		Sometimes		Always	Don't Know
20.	Does the Court and the court staff and lawye		•		•	nt to familiarize judges,
	1	2	3	4	5	
	No		Occasionally		Yes	Don't Know
21.	In your experience w delay?	ith your criminal	cases, what is the n	ature of ca	ses in which you e	xperience unreasonable
		1			2	
		Non-summary			Summary Case	es
		I don't pi	ractice in Criminal C	Courts	_	

22.	In you	ır (experience	with	your	civil	cases,	wha	at is the	e nature	of cases	in which	you exp	erie	ence unre	asonabl	e delay?
	RANI	K	THOSE	1 T	O 5,	WI	TH 1	B	EING	THE	LEAST	DELAY	AND	5	BEING	THE	MOST
	FRF	11	FNTI V I	TT A	VFT	`											

I don't practice in Civil Courts		
a) Partition	())
b) Land	())
c) Money recovery	())
d) Leasing/ Hire Purchase	())
e) Matters before Commercial Courts	())
f) Matrimony	())
g) Testamentary	())

23. According to your experience in the Civil Courts, rank the following from 1 to 5 as a cause of delay in case resolution, with 1 being the least frequent and 5 being the most frequent case of delay

I don't practice in Civil Courts

REASONS FOR CASE DELAY (Circle One Answer for each Area)	1 = Least Frequent		3=Frequent		5= Most Frequent
a. Delay in serving summons	1	2	3	4	5
b. Delay in receiving answer	1	2	3	4	5
c. Delay in discovery of documents	1	2	3	4	5
d. Delay in expert evidence	1	2	3	4	5
e. Obtaining documents from the court registry (proceedings etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
f. Delay in setting the case for trial	1	2	3	4	5
g. Continuance of trial for defendant non appearing	1	2	3	4	5
h. Continuance of trial for witness non appearing	1	2	3	4	5
Continuance of trial for Lawyer non appearing	1	2	3	4	5
j. Continuance of trial for Judge unavailable	1	2	3	4	5
k. Lenient practice of providing continuances/adjournment of trials	1	2	3	4	5
l. Lack of Court Staff such as Stenographers and translators	1	2	3	4	5

24. In your	experience with c	ivil cases, how	effect	ive is the cou	ırt in timel	y enforcement	of judgments	?	
	1	2		3	4	5			
	Generally ineffective		No O	pinion		Yes Generally effective	Don't K	now	
25. From the schedule	ne date of arrest in led?	criminal cases	, how l	long on avera	age does it	take in your ca	ses for a trial	date to be	
1			2				3		
Less than s	ix months		6 mont	ths to 1 year			Mor	e than 1 year	
		Don't K	now _						
-	experience, if you eal for hearing?	file a petition	for fin	al appeal hov	w long on a	average does it	take an appe	llate court to fix	
Less than s	ix months		6-12 1	months		More than 1 year			
case re	ing to your own exsolution, with 1 bein practice in Crimina	ing the least from	equent			•	f delay.	·	
	S FOR CASE DEIne Answer for each			1 = Least Frequent		3=Frequent		5= Most Frequent	
a. Delay ii	n the police investi	gation report		1	2	3	4	5	
b. Delay is	n fixing for hearing	9		1	2	3	4	5	
c. Delay ii	n calling for witnes	ses		1	2	3	4	5	
document etc.)	n obtaining advice/ s from other institu	tions (Police,	AG,	1	2	3	4	5	
(proceedir	ng documents from ngs etc) n receiving expert		stry	1 1	2 2	3 3	4 4	5 5	
	practice of provid			1	2	3	4	5	
h Lack of	Court Staff such a	s Stenogranhe	rs						

and translators

SECTION III. INPUT ON AREAS FOR COURT IMPROVEMENT

CASE MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

	1	2	3	4	5	
	Not at all		Somewhat reduce delay		Would reduce delay	Don't Know
-			published time stand for judges and courts		-	cedures governing the case
	1	2	3	4	5	D. V.V.
	No		Somewhat		Yes	Don't Know
the e	fficiency in handling 1 No	the cases v	without undue delay? 3 Somewhat	4	5 Yes	Don't Know
31. In yo	our experience, do th	e courts op	erate during officially 3	scheduled 4	d operating hours?	
	No, often deviate from official hours		Occasionally		Yes, consistently operate during official hours	Don't Know
	you think that adopt	ing strict s	schedules for court of	perating h	ours would contril	bute reducing the delay in
32. Do y	-					
-	-	2	3	4	5	Don't Know

33.	Do you think th management and s			the courts is	adequate to sup	pport efficient processing,
	1	2	3	4	5	D. W.W.
	No		Somewhat		Yes	Don't Know
34.	_		ation of maintaining educe delay and incr	-	-	mation, giving noticing of
	1	2	3	4	5	D - 124 W - 1 - 1
	No		Somewhat		Yes	Don't Know
35.	•		of using a computer reduce the delays?	program for la	wyers to transmit	information electronically
	1	2	3	4	5	D. M.W.
	No		Somewhat		Yes	Don't Know
36.	Do you have adeq electronically?	uate computer fac	cilities and skills to	tile cases electi	ronically and acce	ss case information
	No addition equipmen training require	- al t & g	Some capacity		Yes - current capacity and skills	Don't Know
37.		ms of status of a		-	•	timely access to all case tribute to address the delay
	1	2	3	4	5	
	Not a	t all	Somewhat		Yes –very much	Don't Know

COURT TECHNOLOGY

PRACTICI	NG ALTERNATIVE	DISPUTE RI	ESOLUTION			
-	-	-	ve Dispute Resolut can reduce the dela			pitration and mediation, Lanka Courts?
	1	2	3	4	5	
	Not at all		Somewhat		Yes	Don't Know
39. How r	many of your clie	nt's matters	s/problems solved	by mediation	on	
	1	2	3	4	5	
	None		1 - 25		25 or more	Don't Know
40. Do yo		g Alternati	ve Dispute Resolu	tion can red	luce costs and hi	gh caseloads in the court
	1	2	3	4	5	
	Not at all		Somewhat		Yes	Don't Know
repres	a. Refer your c b. Refer your c c. Refer your c	elient for M	iliation	YES	categories menti NO NO NO	_
42. The pr	actice of Alternati	ve Dispute	Resolution in Sri I	Lanka positiv	ely impact on my	legal practice?
	1	2	3	4	5	
	Negatively impact my legal practice		Would not impact		Positively impact my legal practice	Don't Know
43. Do yo	u think Alternativ	e Dispute	Resolution system	in Sri Lank	a is adequately p	promoted?
	1	2	3	4	5	
	No		No		Yes	
			Opinion			Don't Know

44. Based on the importance of contribution to an efficient court system in Sri Lanka, how do you rank the following from 1 to 5, with 1 being the least important and 5 being the highest in importance?

	actors Contributing to fficiency of the Court System	Least important	2	Somewhat important 3	4	Highest in importance 5
a.	Establish consistent Time Standards for time from case filing to disposition	1	2	3	4	5
b.	Improve court facilities	1	2	3	4	5
c.	Develop efficient case management procedures	1	2	3	4	5
d.	Information Communication Technology (ICT) used in court systems	1	2	3	4	5
e.	Training and education for judges, court staff and Bar	1	2	3	4	5
f.	Competence of the Bench	1	2	3	4	5
g.	Competence of the Bar	1	2	3	4	5
h.	Better networks among the supporting institutions	1	2	3	4	5
i.	Expand Practice of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)	1	2	3	4	5

SECTION IV	DEMOGRAPHICS	
a. Gender: (BY	OBSERVATION)	
	Male (01) Female (02)	
(BY QUESTIO	NING)	
	25- 45 (01) 46- 65 (02) 66 + (03)	
	Sinhala (01) Tamil (02) Moors (03) Other (04)	
	Colombo District (01) Other districts in Western Province (02) Southern (03) Central (04) Eastern (05) Northern (06) North central (07) Uva Sabaragamuwa (08) North western (09)	
e. Field of Prac	tice	
	Criminal Law (01) Civil Law (02) Commercial (03) Public Law (04)	
f. Type of prac	tice	
	Government (01) Private (02) Corporate (03) Legal Aid Commission (04)	
	ce (01) Trial Courts (02) Appellate Courts (02) Both (03)	
h. Years of prac	ice	
	1-3 years (01) 4-10 years (02) 11-19 years (03) 20 + years (04)	

ATTACHMENT E. PROSCENIUM CAST ACTOR PROFILES



G. Chamila Priyanka

Academic: BA (University of Colombo)

Professional: Journalist & Teacher

Experience in Theatre & Arts:

❖ Scripted and Directed the drama "You & Me Alone"

Awards:

- Special jury award for direction at the Youth Drama Festival in 2006.
- Merit award for Direction National State Drama Festival in 2006.
- Won the awards for the best drama, best director, best script, best lighting, best actor and best actress at the Inter-faculty Short Drama competition of University of Colombo in 2006.

Scripted and Directed the drama "Che & Juliet"

Awards:

- Best Drama, Best Direction, and Best Script at the National State Drama Festival in 2007
- Won the awards for the best drama, best direction, best script, best music, best set design, best actor and a merit award to the actress at the "Wedikawen Maha Polowata" Drama festival organized by the University of Jayawardhanapura in 2007
- Best Direction 2nd Place, Best Script 2nd Place at the Youth Drama Festival in 2007

Scripted and Directed the drama "Come To Play Cricket"

Awards:

- Best Script, Best Direction 3rd Place in Youth Drama Festival (Colombo District) in 2009.
- Selected for Youth Drama Festival All Island finals in 2009.
- Selected for State Drama Festival finals in 2010.

❖ Scripted and Directed the drama "This is not a gun"

Awards:

- Won the awards for the best drama, best direction, best script, best supporting actor, best lighting, best set design, best choreography at the National State Drama Festival in 2015
- Selected for Youth Drama Festival finals in 2014.
- Selected for State Drama Festival final in 2014
- **❖** Member of the British Council Theatre Group, Colombo, Sri Lanka since 2009.
- **❖** Participated ASSITEJ World Congress and Performing Arts Festival Warsaw Poland in 2014
- **❖** Documentary Video Creation by Chamila Priyanka

For Vikalpa News Web by Center for Policy Alternatives

- Remembering Black July '83 Democracy in Post-War Sri Lanka https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9D123A20596A2300
- Democracy in Post-War Sri Lanka https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8841194DB26672E0
- LLRC Report and Sri Lanka Political Parties https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL03B9681C35B9182F
- Literature & Colombo International Book Fair https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PqJfekE7wU8
- Valentine's day 2011; Sri Lanka Politics, Police and Marketing https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0duft89pyTA
- Sri Lankan Tamil Cinema Interview with Darmasena Pathiraja https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pl8epS6OfFw
- Sri Lankan Tamil Cinema Interview with Ashoka Handagama https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nT Pq T6 ws
- Books & Life For the Month of Literature https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vZQb60ejuEE

For Law & Society Trust

 Mega-Development Projects in Hambantota: In Whose Interest? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sk5hRKts0so

For Center for Poverty Analysis

 Development in Art <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KrIJhz0XPh8</u>



L. Mayura Perera

Academic: BA (University of Kelaniya)

Professional: Development Officer in Ministry of National Language and Social Integration

Experience in Theatre & Arts:

As an Actor in Theatre

- "Vikurthi" by Somalatha Subasinghe since 2000
- "Punchi Apata Dan Therei & Thoppi Velenda" by Somalatha Subasinghe since 2000
- "Himakumariya" by Somalatha Subasinghe since 2000
- "Blood Wedding" by Koushalya Fernando 2004
- "Che & Juliet" by Chamila Priyanka 2007
- "Cricket Gahanna Enna" by Chamila Priyanka 2009
- "Meya Thuwakkuwak Nove" by Chamila Priyanka 2014
- "Rathna Valli" by Nadeeka Guruge
- "Mage Kalaye Weerayek" by Sudath Abeysiriwardana 2010
- "Oluwen Gahamuda" by Tharaka Pushpakumara 2011
- "12k" by Athula Pathirana 2013
- "Gladiator Premaya" by Namal Jayasinghe & Prasanna Mahagamage 2010
- "Double Game Karayo" by Dhananjaya Karunaratne 2014

As an Actor in Tele Drama

- "Samanalunta Wedi Thiyanna" by Pradeep Dharmadasa Swarnawahini
- "Waten Eha" by Roshan Kuruppu Derana TV
- "Appachchi" by Ananda Abenayaka Swarnawahini
- "Rathu Ahasa" by Cristy Shelton Swarnawahini

As an Actor in Films

- "Flying Fish" by Sanjeewa Pushpakumara
- "Boradiya Pokuna" By Sathyajith Maitipe

- "Falling Sky" by Vimukthi Jayasundara
- "Liberty" by K.P.D. Udayasiri
- "High Way" by K.P.D. Udayasiri
- "Delovaka Vasaya" by Thisara Imbulana

As an Actor in TV Commercials

- Prime Grameen TVC https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HmijqLg3bN4
- Kotagala Tea TVC https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aRQmyNj4A2U

Awards

- Best Actor "Mage Kalaye Weearayek" in Youth Drama Festival 2010
- Best Actor 2nd Place "Gladiator Premaya" in Youth Drama Festival in 2010
- Best Actor 2nd Place "Oluwen Gahamuda" by Tharaka Pushpakumara 2011
- Best Actor 2nd Place "Mage Kalaye Weearayek" in State Drama Festival 2011
- Best Actor "Che & Juliet" in Wedikaven Mahapolowata Theatre Festival 2008
- Best Set Designer "Che & Juliet" in Wedikaven Mahapolowata Theatre Festival 2008

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Dilum Buddhika

Academic: Following Visual Arts Degree in University of Kelaniya

Professional: Actor and Photographer

Experience in Theatre & Arts:

As an Actor in Theatre

- "Vikurthi" by Somalatha Subasinghe since 2000
- "Punchi Apata Dan Therei & Thoppi Velenda" by Somalatha Subasinghe since 2000
- "Himakumariya" by Somalatha Subasinghe since 2000
- "Romeo Juliet" (English Drama) William Scott Richards 2007
- "If I Were You" by William Scott Richards 2009
- "Ajaramara" by Koralage Saman 2013
- "Meya Thuwakkuwak Nove" by Chamila Priyanka 2014

As an Actor in Tele Drama

- "Iduwari" by Lilantha Kumarasiri
- "Kolamba Ahasa" by Gaya Ramy Alwis
- "Sura Vimana" by Ranjan Prasanna

As an Actor in Films

- "Liberty" by K.P.D. Udayasiri
- "High Way" by K.P.D. Udayasiri

As an Actor in TV Commercials

- Pears Baby TVC https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yvT4f zDWvw
- Dialog i250 TVC https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7creC54EzXs
- Maliban Real Doubles (Couple) TVC https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ex-maKSQXYI

- Mobitel Prepaid Downloading TVC (Rastafarian) Chandrame Re Paya https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=itt-NysIHE4
- BOC Senior Citizens Savings TVC 1 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TcE6xmyq36g

Awards

• Merit award for the acting - "Ajaramara" in State Drama Festival 2014

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Pramodh Edirisinghe

Professional: Actor and Event Coordinator

Experience in Theatre & Arts:

As an Actor in Theatre

- "Vikurthi" by Somalatha Subasinghe
- "Punchi Apata Dan Therei & Thoppi Velenda" by Somalatha Subasinghe since 2004
- "Himakumariya" by Somalatha Subasinghe since 2004
- "Blood Wedding" by Koushalya Fernando 2004
- "Cricket Gahanna Enna" by Chamila Priyanka 2009
- "Meya Thuwakkuwak Nove" by Chamila Priyanka 2014

As an Actor in Teledrama

- "Sansare Piyasatahan" by Ananda Abenayake
- "Adarayata Mal Mitak" by Ananda Abenayake
- "Yuda Muktha Kalapayaka Sita Ganima" by Namal Jayasinghe

As an Actor in Tele Films & Short Films

- "Liberty" by K.P.D. Udayasiri
- "High Way" by K.P.D. Udayasiri
- Documentary Drama about "AIDS" for Sri Lanka Bureau of foreign Employment

As a Stage Manager in Theatre

- "Walas Pawula" by Chandana Aluthge
- "Oyai Mai Thaniyama" by Chamila Priyanka
- "Che & Juliet" by Chamila Priyanka
- "Mage Kalaye weerayek" by Sudath Abesiriwardane
- "Aluth Game Ekak" by Sudath Abesiriwardane
- "Wrestling Wrestling" by Sudath Abesiriwardane
- "Valentine Enakan" by Dhananjaya Karunarathne
- "Chandrawathi Samaga Rathriyak" by Dhananjaya Karunarathne

- "Oba Sapekshayi" by Dhananjaya Karunarathne
- "Duwana un Dennek" by Dhananjaya Karunarathne
- "Last Bus eke Kathawa" by Dhananjaya Karunarathne
- "Double Game karayo" by Dhananjaya Karunarathne
- "Buddhikayage Jeewithe" by Dhananjaya Karunarathne
- "Acid Rain" by Dhananjaya Karunarathne

As a Director, Creative Director & Assistant Director in Television

- Nelum Vila Director (Sirasa TV)
 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QdCsSaDldnQ
- Sawanata Wadanak Creative Director (Sirasa TV)
 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= SmuhXWwcqg
- Kidurangana Tele drama Creative Director (Sirasa TV) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7WTWtvyUdj0
- Nethra Creative Director (Sirasa TV) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EV0Bmj9ZJSY
- Tharu Mansala Studio Manager (Sirasa TV) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2BYieflkEWA
- Kageda Gee Nada Assistant Director (Sirasa TV)
- Ahanna Asai Gayanna Assistant Director (Sirasa TV)
- Ole Zigo Challenge Assistant Director (Sirasa TV)
- Ilaya Ganam(Tamil) Assistant Director (Sirasa TV)
- Dimi Thaka Tha(Tamil) Assistant Director (Sirasa TV)
- Rasata Rasak Assistant Director (Sirasa TV)



Kanishka Fernando

Academic: Following BA (University of Kelaniya)

Professional: Actor

Experience in Theatre & Arts:

As an Actor in Theatre

- "Vikurthi" by Somalatha Subasinghe since 2011
- "Punchi Apata Dan Therei & Thoppi Velenda" by Somalatha Subasinghe since 2011
- "Himakumariya" by Somalatha Subasinghe since 2012
- "Sanda Langa Maranaya" by Koushalya Fernando 2012
- "Mask" by Koushalya Fernando 2013
- "Meya Thuwakkuwak Nove" by Chamila Priyanka 2014

As an Actor in Films

• "High Way" by K.P.D. Udayasiri

As an Actor in TV Commercials

 Mobitel-M lottery TVC https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KPOKT0R9ffk

Awards

• Best supporting actor - "Meya Thuwakkuwak Nowe" in State Drama Festival 2015



Geetha Alahakoon

Professional: Actress

Experience in Theatre & Arts:

As an Actor in Theatre

- "Vikurthi" by Somalatha Subasinghe since 2004
- "Punchi Apata Dan Therei & Thoppi Velenda" by Somalatha Subasinghe since 2004
- "Himakumariya" by Somalatha Subasinghe since 2006
- "Sanda Langa Maranaya" by Koushalya Fernando
- "Mask" by Koushalya Fernando 2013
- "Che & Juliet" by Chamila Priyanka 2007
- "Gladiator Premaya" by Namal Jayasinghe & Prasanna Mahagamage 2010
- "Aluth Game Ekak" by Sudath Abesiriwardana 2014
- "interview" by sanath Karunaratne 2014
- "Romeo Juliet" (English Drama) William Scott Richards 2007

As an Actor in Teledramas

- "Me Wasantha Kalayayi" by Cristy Shelton ITN
- "Hiru Thaniwela" by Pradeep Dharmadasa Hiru TV

As an Actor in Films

- "Bahuchithwadiya" by Malaka Dewapriya
- "Hina Mala Potha" by Menaka

As an Actor in Song Visual

 Laa Sanda Aye - Samitha Mudunkotuwa (New Sinhala Songs 2013) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4W_EGhF1sP0

Awards

- Best Actress "Che & Juliet" in National Drama Festival 2007
- Best Actress 2nd place "The Interview" in National Drama Festival 2015



Thiwanka Don Ranasinghe

Academic:

- 1. E.Q. Diploma in Drama & Theatre (Play House Kotte)
- 2. Certificate in Black box Theatre (Inreractart.org)
- 3. Diploma in Folk Music & Perfoming Arts (Ranwala Foundation)
- 4. Certificate in Bhathkande Exam for Thabla (Praveshika & Prathama)

Professional: Actor & Percussionist

Experience in Theatre & Arts:

As an Actor in Theatre

- "Sudu Seeya" by Rathna Lalini Jayakody 2010
- "Wasala Nadagama" by Sachithra Rahubadda 2010
- "Caged" by M.Safeer 2011
- "Me Kotuwata Enna" by Tharindu Ranepura 2012
- "Creeps" by M. Safeer 2011
- "White Elephant" by S. Dayalan 2012
- "Andarela" by Jayalath Manorathne
- "Thala mala Pipila" by Jayalath Manorathne
- "King Lear" by Sujeewa Pathinisekara 2012
- "Suba Gaman" by M. Dukgannarala 2013
- "Dhanathmaka Ballek" by Samila Vidanage 2013
- "Sekkuwa" by Parakkrama Niriella
- "Charandas" by Parakkrama Niriella
- "Hunuwataye Kathawa" by Parakkrama Niriella
- "Decent Work" by Parakkrama Niriella
- "Walking Path" by Jayampathy Guruge 2014
- "Mala Bera" by Samila Vidanage
- "Gahanu Manussaya" by Thilan Mahesh

International Festival Participation

- "Caged" Mandala International Youth Theatre Festival, Nepal 2011
- "Walking Path" Threspo I.Y.T.F, India 2014



Thilakshini Ratnayake

Academic:

- Undergraduate Bachelor of Information Technology University of Colombo School of computing.
- Diploma in English at Aquinas College Colombo 8.
- Diploma in Drama and theatre University of Visual and performing arts Colombo 7.

Professional:

- Actress
- Script writer

Experience in theatre and arts:

As an Actor in Theatre

- "Reality" short play by Neranjan chandradithya.
- "Happy journey" by Jehan Srikantha.
- "Massk" by Kaushalya Fernando.
- "Vikurthi" by Somalatha Subasinghe.
- "Himakumariya" by Somalatha Subasinghe.
- "Gamarala and Rathmalee" by Somalatha Subasinghe.
- "Thatu Enakal" by Thilakshini Ratnayake.
- "Apooru sawaariyak" by Sudarshana Krishantha.
- "Be change" by Sanjeewa Upendra.

As an Actor in Films Tele Drama and TV Commercials.

- Documentary film by PrasannaVitanage
- "Being Aadya" short film by Hasitha warnasooriya
- Counterfeit currency TV commercial by Asoka Handagama for Central Bank. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yaiy80XciBk

As a Voice Artist

- "Nimsara" radio drama on Shree fm.
- "Sanjana" radio drama on Neth fm.
- "Girikula" a tele drama by sudathRohana.

As a Script Writer

• "ThatuEnakal" a short play selected for the National Youth drama competition 2014

Awards

- Best Actress Prathibha Drama Festival 2011
- Best Actress 3rd place- National Youth drama competition 2011
- Best Performance merit certificate State drama festival 2011
- Best Costume designer National Youth drama competition 2012
- Best Costume designer State drama festival 2014
- Best Actress 3rd place "Be Change" in National Drama Festival 2015

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Sameera Wimalasiri

Professional: Actor / Stage Manager / Light Assistant

Experience in Theatre & Arts:

As an Actor in Theatre

- "Vikurthi" by Somalatha Subasinghe
- "Punchi Apata Dan Therei & Thoppi Velenda" by Somalatha Subasinghe
- "Himakumariya" by Somalatha Subasinghe
- "Gamarala Diwyaloketa" by Somalatha Subasinghe
- "Rathmali" by Somalatha Subasinghe

As a Stage Manager

- "Vikurthi" by Somalatha Subasinghe
- "Punchi Apata Dan Therei & Thoppi Velenda" by Somalatha Subasinghe
- "Himakumariya" by Somalatha Subasinghe
- "Gamarala Diwyaloketa" by Somalatha Subasinghe
- "Rathmali" by Somalatha Subasinghe
- "Meya Thuwakkuwak Nowe" by Chamila Priyanka
- "Mage Kalaye weerayek" by Sudath Abesiriwardane
- "Aluth Game Ekak" by Sudath Abesiriwardane
- "Wrestling Wrestling" by Sudath Abesiriwardane



Yashoda Rasandhuni

Academic: Following BA (University of Kelaniya)

Professional: Actress

Experience in Theatre & Arts:

As an Actor in Theatre

- "Vikurthi" by Somalatha Subasinghe
- "Punchi Apata Dan Therei & Thoppi Velenda" by Somalatha Subasinghe
- "Himakumariya" by Somalatha Subasinghe
- "Gamarala Diwyaloketa" by Somalatha Subasinghe
- "Rathmali" by Somalatha Subasinghe
- "Sanda Langa Maranaya" by Koushalya Fernando
- "Mask" by Koushalya Fernando 2013
- "Meya Thuwakkuwak Nove" by Chamila Priyanka 2014

As an Actor in Films

- "Saroja" by Somarathne Disanayake https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jKBS90cpU0E
- "Frangipani" by Visakesa Chandrasekaram
 Frangipani Movie Trailer https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hB3dTftE7Hg
- "High Way" by K.P.D. Udayasiri

As an Actor in TV Commercials

 Divi Naguma – Sahana Aruna https://www.facebook.com/video.php?v=842311052469260&theater

ATTACHMENT F. PERFORMANCE INDICATOR TRACKING TABLE (PITT; ATTACHED IN A SEPARATE EXCEL® FILE)